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#### Stocks dip further at end of weekly trade

AMMAN (R) — Shares were weaker at end of weekly trade on Wednesday as a host of negative factors further eroded investor confidence, dealers said. The index of the Amman Financial Market fell to 150.78 points, close to a key 150-point psychological barrier and down 0.31 per cent from 151.24 on Tuesday. It was hovering above the 160-point barrier at the peak of a 1995 rally in May. The value of shares traded rose slightly to 793.273 dinars from 773.393 on Tuesday. Trading was weak with 387 contracts executed for 415.233 shares. Dealers say many factors are depressing the market and diverting investor interest, triggering an across-the-board slide in prices in thin volume and sluggish trade. They cite a tight monetary policy to shore up the dinar by raising AMMAN (R) — Shares were weaker at end of weekly trade on They cite a tight monetary policy to shore up the dinar by raising interest rates weaning investors to safer bank deposit yields, a spate of new company issues, and renewed pessimism about short-term gains from the peace treaty with Israel. Varying interpretations of economic laws drafted to boost confidence are not helping to lift the wait-and-see mood.

Number 5972



AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 20-21, 1995, SAFAR 22-23, 1416

#### Hanover school announces improved HIV medication

HANOVER, Germany (AFP) — The Hanover School of Medicine said Wednesday it had succeeded in strengthening the immunity of patients infected with the virus that causes AIDS. It said the immunity defence cells of several patients treated with the preparation known as IOT4A had increased by up to 50 per cent in a two-year experiment in 25 AIDS centres on 158 people, half of whom received a placebo. Professor Ingolf Schedel described the medication prepared by the Hanover School's clinical immunology department as an antibody used as a vaccine antigen, or immunogen. Four to six weeks more were needed to know if the medication had halted reproduction of the Human Immune-Deficiency Virus (HIV), the school said. However in an earlier pilot study by the school, from 1991 to 1993, 10 patients treated did not deteriorate. Professor Schedel said that IOT4A was not an AIDS cure, but strengthened the formation of antibodies against HIV and thus delayed the outbreak of the disease.

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

## Mubarak Warns: 'Palestinian, Israeli negotiators will miss July 25 deadline'

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — After months of tortuous negotiations, Israel and the PLO are close enough to reach an agreement on expanding Palesti-nian autonomy only days past their self-imposed deadline, President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday.

Volume 19

The two sides had set next Tuesday as a target date for a deal on withdrawing Israeli troops from West Bank cities and holding Palestinian elections. But after talks with PLO chief Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Mr. Mubarak said an agreement may not be reached until Wednesday or

All three leaders claimed progress after the two-hour meeting in the Mediterranean port of Alexandria, but offered few specifics. The summit was meant to overcome obstacles that have arisen in four days of Israeli-PLO negotiations in a northern Israeli resort.

"It was very positive... and we thank Mr. Beres for his positive reaction," Mr. Arafat said at a news conference with Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Peres outside the seaside Ras

nian Serb forces stepped up

their attacks on U.N. safe

havens across Bosnia-

Herzegovina on Wednesday

for common ground in a bid

to present a resolute response

stranglehold on the eastern

Muslim enclave of Zepa.

issued an ultimatum for gov-

ernment troops to surrender

in nearby Gorazde and laun-

cehd a coordinated attack in

conjunction with rebel Mus-

lims on the Bihac pocket in

The Serbs also kept up

their defiant rhetoric in the

face of the increasingly impo-

tent and divided international

community, threatening to

down Western aircraft if they

copters and planes which

seek to protect the Muslim

army," warned Radovan

Karadzic, the Serb separatist

leader, in a statement carried

by the SRNA news agency.

were aimed at dissuading

Western powers from endors-

ing any military options at a

key meeting to discuss world

response to the crisis in the

enclaves to take place in Lon-

Mr. Karadzic's comments

"We will shoot down heli-

northwestern Bosnia.

get involved.

Serbs tightened their

to Serb aggression.

Western leaders scrambled

Al Tin palace. "We hope to continue in this direction." Despite the optimism, a dispute over the control of the West Bank's water resources was not resolved. Israeli leaders said Tuesday

to hold up negotiations. "We've got some ideas which will now be checked to see how pragmatic they are," Mr. Peres said at the news conference with Mr. Arafat and Mr. Mubarak. "I think some good ideas were

the dispute was threatening

Mr. Arafat said because control over water was still under negotiation, "it is better not to give details.
The West Bank aquifer

supplies 40 per cent of the water used by Israel's 5.5 million citizens. The West Bank's one million Palestinians get about 2.5 times less' per person than Israelis.

Palestinians want possessions of all water resources in the areas which they will control following the withdrawal of Israeli troops. Israel has urged the issue be set aside until a later date. Until then, Israel would keep control of

the water. Talks were also snagged

Serbs step up attacks on Bosnian

U.N. contingent at Gorazde and a U.S. alternative calling

for aggeressive NATO air-

strikes to stem the Serb adv-

But the two plans appear

diametrically opposed politi-cally, and divisions between

the United States and Euro-

pean allies also remain over

the rules of engagement for

military action in the Bosnian

war, leaving Western powers

scrambling for consensus

Wednesday ahead of the

London meeting. U.S. President Bill Clinton

spoke Wednesday with Brit-

ish Prime Minister John Ma-

jor and French President Jac-

ques Chirac in an effort to

forge a common position

ahead of Friday's talks, the

French Prime Minister

Alain Juppe said in Paris

meanwhile France would

propose a new military in-

tervention to protect all the

One factor Western pow-

ers will consider in London

will be the increasing com-plaints by U.N. officials here

that they are hamstrung by

political indecision and an

The officials point to the

"lack of political backing"

'amorphous' mandate.

White House said.

safe areas.

nce in Bosnia.

safe havens; West divided

SARAJEVO (AFP) - Bos- French plan to reinforce the

over control of the West Bank's power lines and other electricity infrastructure, said Yoram Pomerantz, a spokesman for Israel's energy minis-

Mr. Mubarak said negotiations would continue at the Israeli resort of Zichron Yaacov until Sunday and then likely return to Cairo, the site of months of talks between Israeli and Palesti-

"Some of the issues and solutions are very promising, others we will continue discussing and by next week we hope that they can come here and can conclude the agreement and meet the July 25 deadline, maybe one day after or two days after," Mr. Mubarak said.

Mr. Mubarak said he also got "a very promising answer" from Israel that it would release Palestinian women prisoners. The PLO has demanded Israel free thousands of Palestinians it still holds most from the uprising against Israeli occupa-

Earlier Mr. Mubarak met Mr. Arafat for an hour and

(Continued on page 7)

Zepa may

SARAJEVO (R) - Bosnian

Serb forces attacking the

U.N.-designated "safe area"

of Zepa may now control the

town and civilians are re-

ported fleeing, a U.N. official

said on Wednesday citing

Serb sources. "The reports

we have from local Serb

sources indicate that Bosnian

Serb army troops have en-

tered Zepa and may effective-

ly control the town if not the

entire southwest corner of the

enclave," said a U.N. official

who asked not to be named.

"We have unconfirmed re-

ports that Zepa is curpty of

civilians who have fled north

into areas still held by govern-

ment troops." There was no independent confirmation of

strikes would backfire on

other U.N. safe areas and the

lightly armed peacekeepers

enclave were to be pulled out

immediately, the commander of U.N. forces in former

Yugoslavia, General Bernard Janvier, said in Brussels as

Peacekeepers in the Zepa

the report.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday lights the torch to open the 14th annual Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts. Below, Queen Noor greets one of the young participants in the Arab Children's Congress which is currently convening in Amman (photos by Yousef Al 'Allan)



### Queen lights torch of 14th Jerash Festival

Queen Noor Maiestv Wednesday opened the 14th annual Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts by lighting a torch at the ancient Greco-Roman city that will host the two-week event, according to a Royal Court statement. This year, the festival,

which was first launched by Oueen Noor in 1981, features 30 local, 10 Arab and 16 international groups, including renowned Arab singers such as Latifa Tounisiya, Asala Nasri, Kathim Saher, the Egyptian Rida Show Group for Folklore Arts, the British Cavern Beatles, the New England Youth Ensemble and the Spanish Flamenco Troupe Al-Andalus De Cadiz, the

statement said. The 1995 festival offers a comprehensive range of children's activities that

recitals, book fairs, art exhibitions and musical performances.

· Its annual handicrafts exhibition, the statement said. will include top quality handicrafts from throughout the Kingdom with a special venue displaying the handi-crafts of Jerash societies from rugs to embroidery, to

ceramics and brass works. Creations of the open workshop for Arab and Jordanian painters organised by the National Gallery and the Riwag Al Balga Gallery are also on display at the festi-

The Poetry Festival, which will be held at various sites in Amman as well as in Jerash, will feature poetry recitals by Arab actors, operatic poetry and poetry discussions, the statement said.

The roots of the Jerash encompass plays, poetry Festival, as described by statement said.

Queen Noor, "lie deep in the fertile soil of our Arab/Islamic civilisation.'

The festival "has contributed to a dynamic revitalisation of our artistic and cultural life, and has served as a bridge of interaction between Jordan and other Arab and foreign countries, encouraging creativity and international understand-

ing," the Queen said. Queen Noor, accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses Princess Rania Abdallah and Princess Ghida Talal, was received by the Governor of Jerash, members of the Higher National Committee of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, Cabinet representatives of the Jerash Govemorate and the mayor and the chief of police of Jerash, the Director General of the festival and the director of security for the festival, the

By Rana Sabbagh

troom. Mr. Khalifah, a 37-year-

old father of 12 and son-inlaw of Usama Bin Laden, an alleged bankroller of Muslim hardline groups, wept on hearing the ruling. Since last December he had been under

The court confirmed previous death sentences against 10 other men charged in a crackdown on Islamic fundamentalists for their in-

volvement in a plot that included bombing and plans for the assassination of leading officials. Two of the accused

Jordan in his absence, was

re-trial. Washington sent him to

Amman after concluding that his presence in the United States was against its security interests and would harm ties with Jordan.

The verdicts on the 10 men under death sentence will automatically be appealed to a higher court under recent legal amendments.

King Hussein has commuted all previous death sentences handed down for political crimes.

mad Al Hashaikah, one of the 10 still under death sentence and the chief witness against Mr. Khalifah, shouted: "God is our patron and master. You have no patron."

Mr. Khalifah's four-man defence team had insisted there was no material evidence to implicate their client. Mr. Hashaikah, who re-

canted his testimony saying it was given under torture, had said he had worked briefly at a Muslim charity school in the Philippines run by Mr. Khalifah, who told him he was ready to help finance a militant group in Jordan.

Most of those implicated in the plot are Jordanians of Palestinian origin who fought against Soviet forces in Afgha-

Arab states such as Egypt and Algeria accuse veterans of the Afghan war of trying to overthrow their govern-

#### Jordanian, Palestinian-Israeli businessmen agree on joint textile projects

By Beatrix Immenkamp Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Palestinian-Israeli businessmen and their Jordanian counterparts, who were received Wednesday by His Majesty King Hussein, agreed to set joint projects in Jordan, organisers of the meeting said.

"After the first day of meetings between the businessmen, joint projects for production in Jordan emerged in the fields of textiles and agriculture," Mr. Ma'an Zabian, the executive chairman of the Hashemite Association, the organiser of the conference, told the Jordan Times. He, however, did

not provide any details. During a meeting with the Palestinian-Israeli delegation, King Hussein expressed hope that what had been achieved on the road to peace would serve as a cornerstone for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"We seek peace that will enable the coming generations to live in security and in a climate of stability and tranquility, peace that would bring about a real change in the region which is the cradle of religions," the King said at a meeting with the businessmen at the Royal Court. which was also attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qassem and other officials.

. In welcoming the delegation, the King said he took pride in their steadfastness. adding "all true Arabs look with respect and appreciation to the Palestinian people and ness and their adherence to their national soil."

The businessmen are attending a three-day executive meeting bringing together representatives of the Jordanian and the

Palestinian-Israeli business community with the aim of finding ways to reestablish economic links between the two sides.

Minister of Industry and Trade Ali Abul Ragheb told the delegation that "Jordan will not spare any effort in forwarding help and support and opening the doors to all those who work for the benefit and prosperity of peo-

Mr. Abul Ragheb told the businessmen that "the trade agreement with Israel will provide a great opportunity for you (Palestinian-Israelis) and for us (Jordanians) to extend bridges of cooperation in the sphere of commercial exchange. We want you to play a role in activating this agreement and supporting it through the expertise you have acquired through working as part of the Israeli

commercial system." After the first day of meetings between the two delegations, Mr. Zabian said that the response on both sides was excellent.

According to Mr. Zabian, more than fifty per cent of the three hundred participants had said that they had aiready established contacts. Cooperation between the two sides will focus on three areas: the export of Jordanian products to Israel, and production of goods in Jordan to Israeli specifications for the Israeli market or for export to other countries through established Israeli trade links and with the help of Israeli technology and know-how.

Mr. Zabian told the Jordan Times that businessmen from of the strong points of their counterparts: while Jordan can provide inexpensive labour and production costs, Palestinian-Israelis have an

(Continued on page 7)

Ashrawi objected to "the

many unnecessary retric-

of "secret information" on

police or other PLO troops

including the type of

weapons they use, their

ammunition, bases, training

The penalty for violating

the ban is suspension of a

publication for up to three

months in addition to fines

and a jail term of up to six

The law also empowers

Palestinian courts to impose

fines and jail terms for print-

ing newspapers, magazines or

leaflets without a licence;

accepting money and instruc-

tions from a foreign govern-

ment; and publishing a story

that incites violence or en-

courages racism or sectarian-

defend the law Wednesday.

it satisfies our needs," Mr.

Abed-Rabbo told a news

conference in autonomous

But Hassan Balawi, direc-

tor of the Palestinian in-

formation ministry's foreign

press department, admitted

Palestinian officials tried to

"The law is democratic and

months.

camps and deployments.

The law bans publication

tions" in the new law.

## Palestinian authorities muzzle news report

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Yasser Arafat's autonomy government has forced the cancellation of a security-related expose in a Jerusalem newspaper Wednesday, the latest Palestinian move to muzzle their media.

The move came a day after a new press law went into effect restricting reporting on security and other issues and threatening violators with fines and jail terms.

The offending article in the Al Quds daily recounted the tale of a 19-year-old Palestinian activists. The three-part series,

which also appeared last week in the London-based Arabic-language newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat, revealed embarrassing details of how informants working for Israel operated and penetrated the

After a phone call from a senior Palestinian official, the Al Quds daily printed a frontpage apology Wednesday for the previous day's first installment and "the offence it caused to any party." The other two parts were cancel-Al Quds managing editor

Maher Al Sheikh described the phone call as "a friendly request." He said the official, who he asked not be identified, said the article con-. tained false information and would cause the Palestinian authority damage.

Hanan Ashrawi, a former Arafat spokeswoman who founded a commission to monitor Palestinian human rights and law enforcement, said the press law and Al Quds affair helped create an "atmosphere for firm selfcensorship."

"There is no official censorship but there is a lot of interference, encouragement of self-censorship and spreading fears," Ms. Ashrawi told

the Associated Press. In a letter sent to Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo, Ms. that "there is a mentality here which is against openness and democracy." He said provisions could be changed in future. Earlier this year, Mr. Ara-

fat ordered the temporary closures of two Islamic fundamentalist weeklies and banned circulation of the Jerusalem-based An Nahar last year for 40 days, forcing the closure of the paper for that period.

Palestinian police have also interrogated journalists after stories appeared that were critical of Mr. Arafat or dealt with divisions in the police.

Although the press law does not legally apply to foreign correspondents, Palestinian officials said they would be required to promise to respect it as a condition for accreditation.

#### don on Friday. from capitals for decisive action. They also say that mea-sures such as NATO air-Among the proposals (Continued on page 7) being considered are a Lebanese troops crack down on protesters against price hike

BEIRUT (AFP) — Troops surrounded union headquarters and fired shots in the air as the government launched a major security crackdown to stop banned marches in support of a general strike on Wednesday.

Nine people were slightly hurt in violence that flared mainly in the southern city of Sidon, when troops anti-riot police intervened to head off demonstrations protesting at a 30 per cent hike in petrol

It was the largest security operation launched since the end of the 15-year civil war in 1990 and prevented planned rallies from going ahead in most of Lebanon's major towns and cities.

Troops took up postions outsice the local headquarters of the General Confederation of Workers of Lebanon, which called the strike, in the main towns of Tripoli, Zahle, Baalbek, Tyre, Nabatiyeh, Junieh and Jbcil.

But in Sidon, the home town of Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, 1,500 people defied the government ban to try to march from the union's headquarters to Martyrs Square. Troops and anti-riot police

unleashed a 15-minute volley of shots into the air to disperse the crowd chanting anti-government slogans. At least four people were slightly injured by rifle butt blows and four policemen were hurt by stones and sticks

Protesters smashed the windows of a police jeep and then set it on fire after its occupants fled. There were also scuffles in

as violence flared, witnesses

Beirut between nervous troops and demonstrators who were prevented from marching on the government headquarters. Dozens were briefly detained.

The president of the taxi drivers' union, Abdul Amir Nadje, was hospitalised after being hit by a rifle butt in the head and stomach.

Mr. Hariri's government had declared Wednesday a

"national security day," obtaining a promise of help from Syria, which has 35,000 troops stationed in Lebanon. Damascus also denounced such "street demonstra-

But the union pressed on with its strike call after the failure of late night talks between its general secretary Elias Abu Rizk and pro-Syrian Labour Minister Assaad Hardan.

The meeting produced no results," the union boss said. We stick to our demand for the scrapping of the 30 per cent petrol price rise, a measure which has harmed all Lebanese people." Soldiers and helmeted riot

police armed with automatic

rifles, backed by tanks and

armoured cars, were out in

force at main road junctions in the capital. Troops in combat gear blocked the access to Beirut's Beshara Khoury square where marchers were to have assembled before heading for

(Continued on page 7)

# Court clears Saudi Islamist

Reuter

AMMAN — The State Security Court on Wednesday cleared a Saudi financier facing a death sentence on charges of involvement in a plot to destabilise the Kingdom and ordered him freed. "The court decided that

Mohammad Jamal Khalifah was innocent of all charges because evidence was not enough to incriminate him,' chief Judge Abdul Hafez Amin told a crowded cour-

sentence to hang.

are still at large.

Mr. Khalifah, a businessman who was initially tried in

arrested in the United States on December 16 for having an improper visa. He was sent to Jordan in May at his own request for a

As the court issued its ruling on Wednesday, Moham-

## Fighting erupts in Afghanistan

day between troops loyal to Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani and forces of his rival General Abdul Rashid Dostam in western Afghanistan, a military spokesman

"This morning we started our cleanup operations against the enemy who have occupied Morghab," said General Azimi.

Morghab is a district centre in Badghis province, which together with neighbouring Ghormach centre, was taken over by General Dostam's

forces three days ago. Military forces of Mr. Rabbam's ally, Ismael Khan, who is also governor of western Herat province, control most of the surrounding provinces of Badghis, Ghor, Farah and Nimtoz.

"Morghab and Gormach had been demilitarised for the past three months in an agreement reached by the elders of these districts," Gen. Azimi, military spokesman for Ismael Khan told He claimed the Uzbek

occupation, led by Gen. Dostam's right-hand man, General Rasool Pahlawan, was in violation of this agree-"Currently they hold the

town and positions east of Morghab River and our forces are west of the river," Gen. Azimi said.

ARAD, Israel (AFP) - A

17-year-old boy and a young

girl were trampled to death

and 109 people hurt in a

stampede at a rock festival

late Tuesday in southern Israel, police said Wednes-

Three teenaged girls were

critically ill in a coma and six

other people were kept in

hospital, but were out of dan-

ger, doctors said.

The stampede started as panic swept the head of the crowd with thousands press-

ing to get into the open-air

venue at the Negev Desert

city of Arad to see the popular Israeli rock group, Machi-

bworst and for successful the crowd

forced me to the ground and I

wisutrampled on, I couldn't

attacks by Gen. Dostam had been made on Herat city.

Gen. Dostam and Mr. Ismael Khan had agreed not to bomb their respective capitals Mazar-I-Sharif and Herat under an arrangement reached through the intermediary offices of the United Nations in July 1994, he

Observers said the alleged Uzbek incursion into Badghis province comes at a time when Gen. Dostam was being hard-pressed further east by troops loyal to Mr. Rabbani's main commander, Ahmad Shah Masood.

Fighting between Mr. Masood's men and Gen. Dostam's forces continues in central Bamian province near the district centre of Yakaulang, which is some 30 kilometres (18 miles) west of the once-famous tourist attraction of the coloured Band-I-Amir Lakes.

The capture of Yakaulang is strategically important for Mr. Masood as it would not only open up an overland corridor for the first time linking his forces with those of Ismael Khan, but also allow easier military supply to his men fighting in the mountains of the Dostamcontrolled provinces of Jawzjan, Samangan, Balkh and Baghlan.

The southwestern frontlines of the forces loyal to Ismael Khan and the attacken. Azimi said. ing Taliban religious move-He said no concurrent jet ment were quiet at present,

Maya, a girl who escaped

"It was real hysteria, peo-

ple were afraid they were

going to suffocate with death

and were pushing like mad to get out," said Daniel from Tel Aviv.

atmosphere after a terror attack in Gaza," said 20-year-

their family names.
Police said 18,000 tickets

had been sold but that several

thousand more fans turned

up without tickets for what is

known locally as the "Israeli

Police launched an inquiry,

but said there appeared to

have been too few guards on

duty and that they were over-

old soldier Chaim.

Woodstock.

"It reminded me of the

None of the three gave

with a few bad bruises.

2 die, 109 hurt in Israel rock concert stampede

according to Gen. Azimi. On the main national high-

way linking Herat with the Taliban-controlled provincial capital Kandahar in the east, the frontline was still located at the district centre of Delaram in Nimroz province.

"Delaram is a sort of noman's land," Gen. Azimi said adding that Ismael Khan had no immediate plans to try to take Delaram and push into neighbouring Helmand pro-

Meanwhile, a record number of Afghans are returning home in one of the biggest refugee repatriations ever recorded, the U.N. refugee

agency said Tuesday. Up to 2,300 people are returning daily to Afghanistan, mostly from the neighbouring country of Iran, said Rupert Colville, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees

As of Monday, 50,000 refugees had returned to the war-torn country under a sixmonth-old UNHCR programme. An estimated 500,000, mostly from Iran and Pakistan, have gone home under the agency's repatriation programme begun in December 1992.

An estimated 8 million Afghans fled to escape 16 vears of turmoil in their coun-

According to Arad Mayor Betzalel Tabib: "All neces-

sary security measures were

He said the organisers had refused to sell more than the

The mayor ordered the clo-

sure of the venue, called

Rock Place, but said the

week-long festival --- for

which as many as 50,000

youngsters flood into Arad -

several other sites.

wished to leave.

would go on as planned at

Israel's telephone company

Bezek set up a battery of free

telephones in Arad for fans

to call home and the Egged

bus firm was laying on dozens

of vehicles for those who

News of the incident

18,000 limit on tickets.

The number of returning refugees has picked up large-ly because fighting has died down in the Afghan capital of

"Also, it is the traditional return time of year. People wait until the end of the school year, some have seasonal harvesting jobs and just have gotten paid," he said.

By returning now, refugees have several mouths to build a house, plant a crop and harvest it before winter. Mr. Colville recently re-

turned from Afghanistan, where he survyed the refugee Iran also prompted large-

scale refugee returns when it announced in May the cancellation of temporary residence permits of certain refugees, which forced them to leave the country in 15 days. An estimated 1.5 million Afghans remain in Iran, and at least another I million in nearby Pakistan.

Economic conditions in Iran have meant cuts in govrnment subsidies for schooling and health, and refugees are conscious they are not as welcome in Iran as they used to be," Mr. Colville noted. Some 1.8 million Afghans have returned from Pakistan since 1990, UNHCR said.

In addition to assisting re-fugee returns, UNHCR is trying to help Afghanistan build up its infrastructure, including railways and roads, Mr. Colville said. This is to encourage people coming over the border into Herat province to continue back to their home towns or farms.

Wednesday, pushing aside

such items as Israeli-

Palestinian peace talks and

the aftermath of an apparent

guerrilla attack Tuesday and

two army training accidents.

Radio stations ran lists of

names of teenagers whose

parents had not heard from

them, and appealed to every-

one attending the Arab Rock

of my soul," said Ilana, a

mother of a teenaged girl

attending the concert. "It was

a rough night," she said after

hearing that her daughter was

Some politicians criticised

the decision by festival offi-

cials to continue the event as

scheduled until the end of the

"I am shaken to the depths

Festival to call home.



MURDERED IMAM BURRIED: Some 300 people attended the funeral of Aigerian Imam Abdul Baki Sahraoul, 85, one of the co-founders of the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) who was murdered a week age in his

Paris mosque, at the Bouzareah Cemetery in the capital Algiers. Sahraoui is the first FIS official killed abroad (AFP photo)

#### Turkey seals off border without Iraqi Kurd allies commander of the last raid, into sporadic battles that

ANKARA (AFP) - Equipped with sophisticated thermal-imaging cameras and heavy mountain weapons, the Turkish military is sealing off its southern border to deter Kurdish infiltratros, po longer helped by Kurds of

northern Iraq. Ankara had relied partly on the Kurds of northern Iraq, who unlike their brethren in the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) have no territorial claims on Turkey, but infighting between rival groups led the arrangement

"In the beginning the Iraqi Kurds said they would take on the duty," of helping protect the border, said Yalim Eralp, foreign affairs advisor to Prime Minister Tansu Cil-

"But then they started fighting and have not been able to stick to their word," he told AFP.

"It is the duty of the state to make the border as impermeable as possible, with modern gadgets, monitoring, moré vigilance.

Ankara is spending some \$6.6 billion to update its weaponry, according to the

daily independent Milliyet

Half of that amount goes to battle PKK militants, who have been fighting since 1984 for an independent state in southeastern Turkey. Some 20,000 people have been killed so far, including soldiers, militants and civilians, offi-

cial Turkish figures say. On July 5 Turkey raided northern Iraq, declared a protected zone out of Baghdad's control four years ago. That operation followed a more massive one four months ago when 35,000 troops swept in to flush out PKK militants.

Recently, the army proudly showed local reporters its new tanks equipped with thermal-imaging cameras and night-vision binoculars deployed along the border. And, transported by heli-

copters, troops with heavy mortars established bases for the first time on rugged known PKK shelters.

mountain tops across from When we detect a (PKK) oncentration on the opposite side (Iraq), we go and hit them there; Brigadier General Osman Pamukoglu, told the daily English-language Turkish Daily The two main Kurdish

groups in northern Iraq now admit they are too busy fighting one another to keep an eye on their border with Tur-"We have been involved in our internal conflict," said

Safeen Dizai, representative of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), the group controlling the northern Iraqi region bordering Turkey along 350 kilometres (219 miles). "I cannot deny that we

have moved many of our troops to the inside," closer to the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), its rival group which holds the eastern half, of the region.
Until May 1994, the two

groups ran a united government in northern Iraq. At the time, they also patrolled the front, backed by ammunition and food from the Turkish

But, deep-seated rivalries resurfaced between Jalal Talabani's PUK and Massud Barzani's KDP, sending them

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

slowed down after a ceasefire last April. Mr. Dizai said even then

the KDP guarded the border 'to a certain degree" until heavy fighting erupted again in early July, about a week before the ceasefire was due to expire July 15. He is asking Turkey to help

set up a populated buffer zone, but Ankara fears this might only create new shelter for the PKK. Meanwhile, a minibus hit a

mine believed to have been planted by Kurdish guerril-a. las, killing six civilians, the Billis governor's office said. Soldiers clashed with Kur-

dish rebels near the site after." the explosion and killed four. guerrillas, it added. Three children, aged 8 to: 10, were killed in Sirsirpinar ...

village in this province Tuesday when a grenade they found in a field, exploded in their hands, the Anatolia. News Agency said.
Two spore Kurdish rebels were killed in clashes in Hak-

kari and Batman provinces Tuesday, according to the statement

#### even see the legs," said welfned by the first wave of dominated the airwaves Paper: U.K. government cleared Iran 'military' sale

Daliberti plans to avoid Iraq border in future

British government approved the sale to Iran of equipment used in the manufacture of explosives despite being told of their probable military use, the Guardian newspaper reported Wednesday.

The exporter of the equipment said it was supplied in 1990 when Iran was covered by a British embargo preventing exports of products which could be used for military purposes in breach of the

WASHINGTON (R) -

David Daliberti, one of the

two Americans freed after

spending four months in an

lragi jail, returned to the

United States Tuesday and

jokingly promised never to

go near the Iraqi border

good to see my wife ... I feel

fantastic," Mr. Daliberti said

as he arrived at Dulles Inter-

national Airport, accompa-

nied by Representative Bill

Richardson. The New Mex-

ico Democrat helped win

freedom for Mr. Daliberti

and another American, Wil-

"It's good to be home. It's

to the daily.

Greg Thompson, then owner of a specialist electronics company, wrote to then Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's office in February 1989 to seek advice on the "legalities of supplying Iran with components that I feel are specifically for military use. the paper said.

The components in question were pellistor sensors, which can be used for labora-

liam Barloon, this week.

LONDON (AFP) — The Iran-Iraq ceasefire, according tory research on explosives that be believed the compomeasuring, but which can also be used in the development of poisonous gases such as hydrogen cyanide, the Guardian reported.

> Mr. Thompson believes their probable use in Iran was to measure the power and efficiency of an explosion to gather data for military use, according to the paper.

He also said in his letter to the prime minister's office nents were not intended for laboratory use.

The paper said that a month after writing to Down-ing Street, Mr. Thompson received a letter from Alan Clark, then minister for trade, telling him there was "no reason to believe" the sensors would be used for military purposes and that an export licence was not neces-Sary.

### Yemeni envoy gives Sudan a message

KHARTOUM (R) — A Yemeni envoy has given Sudanese President Omar Hassan Al Bashir a message from Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the official Sudanese News Agency (SUNA), said Wednesday. Mr. Saleh visited Egypt last week but denied his country would be mediating in the dispute between Egypt and Sudan over allegations that Sudan tried to kill Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last month. Egypt has already rejected all mediation offers while Sudan says it is trying all channels to improve relations. The Yemeni message, delivered by special presidential envoy Abdul Salam Al Ansi Tuesday, dealt with bilateral relations and developments in the Arab World, SUNA said. Lieutenant-General Bashir commended Yemeni attempts to settle inter-Arab differences, it added. Sudanese Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohammad Taha returned to Khartoum Tuesday from a tour of five Gulf countries and told state television Sudan was trying to end the crisis with Egypt through consultations with Arab states.

### Somalis make peace traditional way

MOGADISHU (R) -- Clan Elders in central Somalia have reached a peace agreement after at least 20 people were killed in violence between ethnic militias last weekend, residents contacted by radio said Wednesday. A traditional "peace feast" will be held in the central town of Baidoa and other spots where clashes took place for three days last week between the Leysan on the one hand and the allied Haren and Eley clans on the other, Elders said. The fighting, in which about 45 people were wounded in Baidoa, forced aid workers from the United Nations and other relief agencies to stop work. They were able to

elders have also forged a peace deal between the Hadame and Jirron clans which recently fought in the central Bakool province, forcing expatriate workers of the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) to evacuate.

resume the work as a result of the peace agreement. Clan

#### Kuwait, S. Arabia hold border talks

RIYADH (AFP) - Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah has left Saudi Arabia after talks about delineating the border between the two countries. The Saudi Press Agency said Wednesday that Sheikh Sabah had left late Tuesday following a short visit. It gave no details about the talks but Kuwaiti diplomats said they focused on drawing up the borders. Sheikh Sabah held talks with Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz and Foreign minister Saud Al Faisal, the official Kuwaiti News Agency said. The Kuwaiti foreign minister said Sunday that Riyadh and Kuwait City intended to demarcate their border following a dispute over which side has the right to the Qaruh and Umm El-Maradim islands in the Gulf. The land border was settled in 1965 after the two sides agreed to share a neutral zone created in 1922.

#### Camel escape bid in Cairo fails

.. Rome (RJ) Lamaca (RJ)

CAIRO (R) - A camel ran amok in central Cairo, running over a flyover and through the most crowded part of the old city before police killed it after a one-hour chase. The camel escaped Tuesday as its owner, a butcher, was taking it to the abattoir to be slaughtered, the newspaper Al-Akhbar said Wednesday. It terrified pedestrians and drivers trapped on the flyover but the newspaper did not report any injuries. Police killed it about three kilometres from where it escaped.

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#### **PRAYER TIMES**

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her: "Come here, you're standing too far away." "I'm just glad to have him back," his wife replied.

Hugging his wife Kathy dose by, Mr. Daliberti told

After meeting reporters briefly after his lateafternoon arrival, Mr. Daliberti went to the White House for a 35-minute meeting with President Bill Clin-

He said be thanked the president for U.S. efforts to get him released, but stopped short of giving Mr. Clinton any advice on policy toward

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Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel.

St. Ephraim Church Tcl. 771751. Amman International Church Tcl.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tcl: 824328.

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel: 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Sakuts Tel: 654932
Church of Nazarese Tel: 675691.

The Evangelical Local Church in

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions will prevail with temperatures around average and winds north-westerly moderate. On Friday,

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"That's not my field," Mr. Daliberti told reporters after the meeting. "I don't want to even think about Saddam Hussein."

He said Mr. Clinton had inquired about how he was treated in Iraq, the conditions in prison there and his medical condition. Mr. Daliberti said he felt great now but that conditions in the prison were poor.

Asked what his future holds, Mr. Daliberti said: "I have no idea.' Mr. Barloon, speaking on

CNN's Larry King Show, said later he planned to continue working as a field service engineer for McDonnell Douglas in Kuwait, "That's my intention," he said in a telephone interview from Kuwait. "This is where my job is."

Mr. Daliberti, 41, of Jacksonville, Florida, and Barloon, 39, of New Hampton, Iowa, were arrested inside Iraq on March 13 while on what they described as a trip to visit friends among U.N. military observers inside the border's demilitarised zone.

### **JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR**

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#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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	IRBID: Dr. Ali Al Shoqairi Al Ouds pharmacy	246[40

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#### **EMERGENCIES** Food Control Centre ....... 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111

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### FOR THE TRAVELLER

**AIRPORT** 

This information is supplied by Royal fordanium (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be veri-ARRIVALS Royal

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#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

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AMMAN (J.T.) ans today rememb King Abdullah. fi

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One the eve of the sity the Jordan Palestinian Nassereudin Nash. saying that, through the King Abdulla Arab nation through

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Special to the Jore

AMMAN - Eig armed with two saws, entered the Sameh Kambawa or and in spite of appe the home owners. down 53 poplar tres men an hour. The men were no vandalise, but wer on court orders to t the trees following plaints from neighb the trees were become

The story began umber 1001, when bour of Mr. Karnha plained to the Mi Agriculture that th metre trees were the breeze coming west side of his h that the leaves wer in his courtward.

I was very upset not feel that there justification by the out down my 10trees simply beca neighbour was dista the leaves. said amhawi, wife Kambawi who lost ID CORTE According Kamhawi, the

offered to clean the bour's countyard on basis, but the nei refused the offer. The leaves and from the tree constar hue our court yard amoi guarantee tha

one will come and 'the neighbour Jordan Times. The neighbour cite tious example whe asked their neighb out the trees to allo passage bu Kamhawis had refus Mrs. Kambawi's ar was that privacy v issue there, since u screened off the

Concert by Latifa A Shakespeare's "A ( Seps on Thursday a

Concert by Zdrave; day and Friday at 5:0 Poetry recital for ch May for children ent

day and Friday at 7:4 Street Show" by Th ount in the Deel El Maestro de Esgr

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## Jordan remembers King Abdullah

AMMAN (J.T.) - Jordanians today remember the late King Abdullah, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and grandfather of His Majesty King Hussein, on the 44th anniversary of his death in Jerusalem.

KingsAbdullah was assassinated while attending Friday prayers at Al Agsa Mosque in 1951.

The late king is remembered for his national stand and for laying the founda-tions of unity between the west and east banks of Jordan and for his commitment to defending the sanctity of the holy shrines of Jerusalem.

One the eve of the anniversary, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted Palestinian historian Nassereddin Nashashibi as saying that, throughout his life, King Abdullah led the Arab nation through difficult



challenges imposed on them by hostile powers. Mr. Nashashibi said that

Abdullah remained committed to national causes throughout his life and until his death in

To mark the anniversary Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker will open a seminar today on the life of King Abdullah and his role in building the nation.

Jerusalem in 1951.

# Court orders tree-lopping after neighbour's complaint

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

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AMMAN - Eight men. armed with two electric saws, entered the home of Sameh Kamhawi on July 15, and in spite of appeals from the home owners, they cut down 53 poplar trees in less than an hour.

The men were not out to vandalise, but were acting on court orders to cut down the trees following complaints from neighbours that the trees were becoming a

The story began in September 1991, when a neighbour of Mr. Kamhawi complained to the Ministry of Agriculture that the eightmetre trees were blocking the breeze coming from the west side of his home and that the leaves were falling in his courtvard.

"I was very upset and I do justification by the court to cut down my 10-year-old trees simply because my neighbour was disturbed by the leaves," said Roushan imhawi, wife of Mr. Kamhawi who lost the case

in court. According to Mrs. Kamhawi, the family offered to clean the neighbour's countyard on a daily basis, but the neighbours refused the offer.

"The leaves and the sap from the tree constantly pollute our court yard and we cannot guarantee that someone will come and clean it up," the neighbour told the

Jordan Times. The neighbour cited a previous example where they asked their neighbours to trim the trees to allow in an passage but the

Kamhawis had refused. Mrs. Kamhawi's argument was that privacy was the issue there, since the trees screened off the family



Ministry of Agriculture employees last week cut down poplar trees at the home of Sameh Kamhawi (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

swimming pool.

"Now I will have to build an iron fence and plant new trees to maintain my family's privacy," she said. But plans to do that were

similarly rejected by their neighbours, who clashed with the workers who came to measure the fence.

"If they build a new fence or plant new trees we will file another law suit because it will block our view and the air passage," the neighbour said.

The verdict against the Kamhawis was made "in accordance with the law and since damage (to the plaintiff) has been proven," a court document said. The court first fined the

Kamhawis JD 70. But, when the sentence was passed, the judge ruled that they had to pay JD 700 to pay for the cost of cutting down the trees, for the neighbour's legal expenses.

As the chopped up trees lie on the main street, the Kamhawi family faces additional expenses of more than JD 2,000 should they choose to plant new trees and at least JD 5,000 to build a surrounding fence.

"Jordan is a country that celebrates Arbour Day and encourages its youth to plant trees. I don't understand how they can pass laws to cut down trees," Mrs. Kamhawi said.

#### what's going on

### JERASH FESTIVAL

\*Concert by Latifa Al Turisiyah of Tunis at the South Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 8:30

Shakespeare's "A Comedy of Errors" by the Oddsocks Production (U.K.) at the Artemis Steps on Thursday and Friday at 9:00 p.m.

Concert by Zdravetz Folklore Group of Bulgaria at the Sound and Light Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 9:00 p.m.

Poetry recital for children by Qamar Al Safadi at Gracia Theatre on Thursday and Friday at

\*Play for children entitled "Birds Talk to Humans" at the Sound and Light Theatre on Thursday and Friday at 7:45 p.m.

"Street Show" by The Chipolatas at The Forum on Thursday and Friday at 9:30 p.m.

#### FILMS.

"Drums in the Deep South" at the American Center on Thursday at 5:00 p.m.

"El Maestro de Esgrima" at Instituto Cervantes on Thursday at 4:30 p.m

#### FIELD TRIP

· Afternoon train trip to Daba'a Castle organised by the Friends of Archaeology Society on Thursday. (Participants must meet at the FoA Centre at 2:30 p.m. to head for the railway station near Marka to take the train at 3:30 p.m.)

# Princess Basma calls for quality education at kindergarten level

AMMAN (Petra) - Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Wednesday called upon the Ministry of Education and other concerned authorities to raise the standard and improve the efficiency of teachers and supervisors of kindergartens.

The Princess pointed out that quality teaching at the kindergarten level serves to lay a strong foundation for future generations.

Addressing the opening session of a workshop on the status of the kindergartens in Jordan, the Princess said substantial plans and endeavours by government, non-governmental institutions and charitable organisations at the kindergarten level will have beneficial results on the local commu-

The Princess said she was satisfied with the wide-spread availability of kindergartens in urban and rural regions, but added that there should not be a difference between the quality of care and education provided by kindergartens of urban areas and those of smaller towns and villages.

Princess Basma thanked the Ministry of Education, the United Nations Chil-

dren's Fund (UNICEF) and the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) for their efforts and recommended an expansion of kindergarten services to cover all parts of the King-

Addressing the session was Ministry of Education Secretary General Izzat Jaradat, who outlined the ministry's efforts in raising the standard of education at the kindergarten level.

UNICEF acting Regional Director Sima Bahous told the meeting that, according to the Department of Statistics' 1991-95 survey, 12.4 per cent of the total number of children at the pre-school age in Jordan attend kinder-

The survey stated that 3 per cent attend kindergartens run by the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF), and that 49 per cent of the total number of the kindergartens in Jordan are run by the private sector, Dr.

Participants in the workshop, which was organised cooperation with UNICEF, included representatives of government-run and privately owned kinder-

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Wednesday meets with women winners of last week's municipal elections (Petra photo)

#### Newly-elected women officials meet Princess Basma

AMMAN (Petra) -- Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Wednesday congratulated the 10 women who won seats in the July II municipal council elections and urged them to exert more efforts in their éndeavour to live up to the expectations of their supporters as well as their communities.

The result of the elections reflects the level of public awareness and the efforts of Jordanian women who are committed to shouldering responsibilities and serving society, said the Princess at a meeting with the first woman mayor and nine municipal council members. Addressing the group at a meeting held at the

King Hussein Youth City, the Princess said that the high number of votes achieved by the women candidates reflected a social transformation in society. She added that further efforts would lead to even greater successes.

The Princess said the work of various women's comminees around the Kingdom was instrumental in ensuring their victory last week.

At a lunch hosted in their honour by Princess Basma, the newly-elected officials thanked the Princess for her own continued efforts to put women at the forefront of the nation's decision

# Labour unions condemn Serbian aggression, pledge to send more aid to Bosnian victims

AMMAN (Petra) -The Federation of Jordanian Labour. Unions (FJLU) Wednesday said Jordanian workers condemn the continuing Serbian aggression on the Bosnian people and were prepared to extend various forms of aid to the victims and displaced civilians of the conflict in the former, Yugoslavia.

Speaking on behalf of the federation, FJLU Secretary General Khaled Shreim said the continued onslaught and displacement of the Bosnian . people exposes the fragility of the United Nations and its various organisations and

constitutes a flagrant violation of international rules and basic human rights.

He urged the Muslim nations to rally in support of the Bosnian Muslim nation in the face of Serbian aggression.

The federation Tuesday said Jordanian workers. would donate one day's wages to help the Bosnian people in response to a call by His Majesty King Hussein to contribute towards alleviating the suffering of these war victims.

Condemnation of the Bosnian attacks came also

Wednesday from the acting mufti of Jordan, Sheikh Saeed Hijjawi, who urged Jordanians to donate generously to help the Bosnians and appealed to the Arab and Muslim nations to "join hands in the defence of the oppressed people,", and the

HCO sends second aid shipment ....

Meanwhile the Hashemite Charity Organisation (HCO) Wednesday sent off a second plane-load of relief aid to Bosnia and said more aid will be sent in the coming

The first consignment of aid was sent Tuesday. The HCO secretary gener-

al supervised the departure of the consignment, and the crew accompanying the shipment said in a statement that the consignments are being desprached upon directives from His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who is chairman of the HCO's board of trustees.

He said that the plane was carrying medical equipment, medicines and other relief supplies presented by the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services of

the Jordan Armed Forces and the private sector.

Accompanying the shipment is a group of officials representing the HCO, Jordan Radio and Television, the local press and the Jordan News Agency Petra.

At: the aisport to see the shapment and team off were several officials including the charge d'affaires of the Bosnian embassy in Amman who said his country deep! appreciates the humanitarian sentiments of the Jordanian people in solidarity with the Bosnian vic-

Ticket price JD 20



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh Wednesday meets with visiting Under Secretary of the United Arab Emirates Min-istry of Education Salem Ghamai to discuss cooperation in various spheres of the education sector (Petra

### Ukrainian delegation to arrive for trade talks

AMMAN (Petra) - A trade delegation from the Ukraine, led by the republic's deputy foreign minister, is due in Amman on July 27 for talks with the private and public sector representa-

tives.

According to Haidar Murad, chairman of the Amman Chamber of Commerce, the delegation will visit the chamber to meet with private sector principals and explore areas for boosting bilateral trade.

Mr Murad said that Jordan's exports to the Ukraine rose in value from JD 29,000 in 1992 to JD 107,000 in 1993 and JD 354 000 in 1994, while Jordanian imports from the Ukraine rose from JD 31.1 million in 1993 to JD 49.7 million in year, said Mr Murad, Jordan's exports to the Ukraine were worth JD 75,000, and imports from the republic were estimated at JD 13 mil-With the balance of trade

heavily in favour of Ukraine, Mr. Murad pointed out that Jordan hopes to adjust the balance through the coming talks in which it will seek to sell the Ukraine more Jordanian products.

According to Mr Murad, the Kingdom's primary imports from the Ukrain include iron rods and iron used in construction, raw iron for industry, medical and chemical equipment and

He said Jordan's exports to the republic include gas ranges, tissue paper, medi-In the first quarter of this cines, vegetables and fruits.

# Jerash Festival Of Culture & Arts July 19 - August 5

#### Activities Held by International Participants

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New England Youth Ensemble	USA	Sunday, Monday 23, 24/7	8.30 pm	Ticket price 10
The Cavern Beatles	UK .	Sunday, Monday 30, 31/7	8.30 pm	Ticket price JD
Al-Andalus De Cadiz	Spain	Tuesday, Wednesday 1, 2/8	8.30 pm	Ticket price JD
		'Artimes Steps	م در خود	
The Comedy of Errors by the	U.K	Thursday, Friday 20, 21/7	9.0i) pm	Ticket price JD 5
Oddsocks Productions				
Blassorchester Langenhagen	Germany	Saturday, Sunday 29, 30/7	9.00 pm	Ticket price ID 3
St. Peter Freienstein	Austria	Friday, Saturday 4, 5/8	9.00 pm	Ticket price JD 3

Zdravetz Folklore Group Bulgaria Thursday. Friday 20, 21/7 9.00 pm Ticket price JD 3
Pohex Folklore Group Poland Tuesday. Wednesday 25, 26/7 9.00 pm Ticket price JD 3 France Friday, Saturday, Sunday 28,29,30/7 9.00 pm Ticket price ID 3 Lucnica Folklore Group Slovakia Tuesday, Wednesday 1, 28 9,00 pm Ticket price ID 3

The Forum 1, 28 9,00 pm Ticket price ID 3 Daily from Friday 28/7 till Friday 4/8 Jugnu Group

Chipolatas Street Show Daily from Thursday 20/7 till Wednesday 26/7 Saturday, Sunday, Monday 22, 23, 24/7 Zdravetz Folklore Group Bulgaria Poliex Folklore Group Poland Thursday, Friday, Saturday 27, 28, 29/7 Thursday, Friday, Saturday 3, 4, 5/8

Lucnica Folklore Group Royal Cultural Centre 27/7 Ticket price JD 5 Opera Singer Christopher Barashvetch Poland Thursday Eugene Ballet Company USA Wednesday, Thursday 2, 3/8 Ticket price JD 8

Outside Ammap Opera Singer Christopher Barashvetch In cooperation with Romero Restaurant - Umm Qais Pianist Alberto Pomaranz lta In cooperation with Romero Restaurant - Mount Nebo

Tickets are available at: Amman: Royal Cultural Centre National Music Conservatory - Abdali: Jett Busses Co. Shmeisani: "Tyche Hotel "Florabel Flowers - 6th Circle: San Rock Hotel - 7th Circle: Music Box Swelfieh: Istiklal Library - Wasfi Altal Str: ." Al-Waha Restaurant ." Green Meadows Tourism Co. Airport Highway: Seven Hills Restaurant - Irbid: Jordanian Market Est.

In cooperation with Romero Restaurant - Umm Qais



Confession The Official Drink of Jerash Festival '95

were practically empty during

In Milwaukee, Wisconsin,

to the north of Chicago, at

least 60 deaths were heat-

related, authorities said.

Several were taking anti-

psychotic drugs that interfere with the body's temperature

regulation mechanism.

according to Medical Examiner Jeffrey Jentsen.

The northern part of the

United States, compared to

the south, is ill equipped for

us and up north, air con-

ditioners are almost universal

here," said Dr. Patrick

Meeham, director of public

health in Georgia, one of the

hottest and muggiest states.

the south are more used to

dealing with hot weather, so

they know to drink cold li-

quids, they know to use fans,

they know to check on elder-

ly loved ones," Mr. Meeham

In all areas affected by the

heat wave authorities urge

people to avoid strenuous

outdoor exercise and to drink

The heat wave that began

last Wednesday was the most

deadliest since 1980, when an

estimated 1,500 people died

The U.S. Centres for Dis-

ease Control said there is no

national (federal) standard

for identifying heat-related

driven plane to crash, but

technical problems were sus-

The D-3 was on a flight from the northwestern Mala-

gasy town of Maintiranano, 300 kilometres west of Anta-

nanarivo. The medical team

had been due to return to

The volcanic island of

Reunion, 650 kilometres east

of Madagascar, is an overseas

department of France with

status of a region and head-

quarters of French military

Simpson, who became a

broadcaster, actor and TV

pitchman, has pleaded inno-

cent to the stabbing deaths

outside Nicole Simpson's Los

Angeles condominium. Pro-

secutors have presented evi-

dence of past incidents of

domestic violence involving

him and his wife during their

lengthy, sensational trial.

Reunion later Tuesday.

pected.

of heat-related causes.

plenty of liquids.

"I suspect that people in

"One difference between

the weekend.

heat waves.

# Beijing dismisses Taiwan concerns over missile test

BEIJING (AFP) - Taiwan should not be concerned over China's plans to conduct surface-to-surface guided missile manoeuvres next week, a senior Chinese diplomat said here Wednesday.

Following a plunge in the Taiwan Stock Market and a popular outcry that greeted China's announcement Tuesday that the exercise would take place just off the northern tip of Taiwan, the diplomat said any concerns on the Nationalist island were symptomatic of a guilty conscien-

"In China we have a saying: 'If your conscience is clear, you needn't fear a knock on the door in the middle of the night," said the diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

He also reiterated China's official position that the mainland would only attempt to invade the island - which Beijing views as a renegade province - if Taiwan attempt to declare independence or was taken over by a foreign power.

Taiwanese leaders called on the public to remain calm Wednesday as the local bourse tumbled 4.2 per cent to a 19-month low on China's announcement of the missile exercise to be conducted between July 21 and 28.

The missile launch exercise "into the open sea" will take place within an area with a radius of 10 nautical miles, centered on a point of latitude 26 degrees 22 minutes north and longitude 122 de-

**Philippines** 

moves to

normalise

Singapore

MANILA (AFP) - Presi-

dent Fidel Ramos Wednes-

day said the Philippines was

lations with Singapore after

the apparent settlement of

the dispute over the executed

Filipina maid Flor Contem-

Mr. Ramos told a press

conference that the Philip-

pines "has started to take

steps to normalise its rela-

He did not specify what

measures were being taken.

Asked if he was going to

appoint a new ambassador to

Singapore soon, Mr. Ramos

tries were downgraded after

Contemplacion was hanged

in Singapore in March for the

murder of fellow Filipina

maid Delia Maga and Maga's

charge, a Singaporean tod-

dler, in Singapore in 1991.

A third-party autopsy in

the United States earlier this

month supported Singapore's

finding that Contemplacion

that Contemplacion was in-

nocent, staging massive pro-

tests on her behalf. Philip-

pine pathologists found that

Maga had been beaten before

her death, probably by a

countries agreed to the third-

party autopsy on the condi-tion that Singapore would

reopen the case if its own

findings were not upheld and

that the Philippines would

normalise relations if Singa-

pore's findings were upheld.

the third-party autopsy

proved that Contemplacion

was guilty, Mr. Ramos said

determining her guilt, "was done during the four-year-

long process in the Singapore

Mr. Ramos recalled that

after Contemplacion was

hanged, he vowed to cut off

ties with Singapore if it was

found that she was innocent.

that "if, on the other hand,

the facts bear out another

verdict, I say we must also

have the grace to acknow-

ledge before the world that

our outrage has been mis-

Asked if the Philippines

would be issuing an apology

as suggested by the Singapore

Strait Times, Mr. Ramos said

"there is no demand of the

"Let us leave this unfor-

Singapore government for an

tunate and sad affair behind

us," Mr. Ramos said,

although he noted that the

greater concern for the more

than four million Filipinos

controversy had resulted in

working overseas.

placed.

apology.'

But he also recalled saying

Asked if he believed that

To settle the issue, the two

Many Filipinos insisted

had strangled Maga.

Ties between the two coun-

.smiled and said: "Just wait."

tions with Singapore.

placion.

taking steps to normalise re-

ties with

grees 10 minutes east. With relations across the Taiwan Strait currently under enormous strain after last month's visit to the United States by Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui, some observers have seen the exercise as a provocative show of China's military might.

However, military experts here said it would be necessary to wait and see the exact nature of the exercise before determining whether the Taiwanese concerns were well-founded.

"If this is to be a test firing of a new ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile), I would tend to see it in the context of China's military modernisation programme rather than a move aimed at Taiwan," said a Western military attache based in

That view was echoed by another Western diplomat. who said the lengthy period alloted to the exercise and the size of the designated impact zone suggested an ICBM test-firing that would have been long in the preplanning stage.

"This isn't something you can organise at the drop of the hat, which would make the timing more coincidental than deliberate," he said.

However, another military attache pointed out that the Chinese announcement had specified a "practice" launch exercise, rather than a "test" - indicating the use of a missile, or mis-

siles, already in service. "That could mean ship-toship launches of smaller missiles like the Silkworm, which would be far easier to arrange and would bear out Taiwan's anxieties," he said.

The announcement, which warned all foreign vessels and aircraft to steer clear of the impact zone during the seven-day period, did not specify if the launches would

be land-based or sea-based. Taiwan's government Wednesday deplored China's plans for the exercise off the sland's northern coast, but ruled out putting its army on

"What mainland China plans (to do) will endanger security and peace in the Asian and Pacific region," said a statement from the Mainland Affairs Council (MAC), Taiwan's top organ planning mainland policy.

"The exercise is aimed at creating instability within our country, but the public should be aware of this and not panic," said MAC Chairman Vincent Siew.

The appeal was also made by Taiwanese President Lee Teng-Hui, after he was briefed on the announcement from Beijing Tuesday that the People's Liberation Army (PLA) would conduct the exercise off the tip of Taiwan from Friday.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration said Taiwan would temporarily close its B576 airline to South Korea, a route flown by the U.S.-

based Continental Airlines, Thai International, Singapore Airlines and the Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific Airways.

The Council of Agriculture said the planned exercise will also interfere with some 200 Taiwanese trawlers fishing in the region.

The Taipei Stock Exchange Wednesday fell to a 19-month low, closing with share prices down 4.2 per cent. The weighted price in-dex tumbled 229.15 points to settle at 5,187.79 points, its lowest level since December 1993. That followed a 12.46point drop Tuesday.

"The Chinese army's announcement sparked ner-vous individual investors to dump shares," said Alice Lo of the Grand Pacific Securities Investment Trust.

wave in the United States in Taiwanese military authorities "have no plan yet to 15 years hit 669, with more heighten our military precasualties expected as bodies pareness or launch any counare recovered, officials said teraction," said Defence In Chicago, 376 people died since last week from Minister Chiang Chung-Ling.

The missile test is part of China's annual training programme, though its location, just 90 kilometres (44.8 miles) north of Pengchiayu Island, may be meant "as a warning" to both Taiwan and the United States, Mr. Chiang said.

A Western diplomat in

Beijing said that missile training cannot be organised "at the drop of a hat" and therefore the timing of the exercises is probably "coin-

# U.S. tells apologies

tionship back on track.

Two weeks before the U.S. and Chinese foreign ministers are to hold crucial talks. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns denied Chinese suggestions that Washington is to blame for deteriorating ties and must act to reverse the trend.

"This implication that we are responsible for the problems in the relationship is simply not supported by the facts, and we don't agree with it and we're not going to make any excuses or any apologies," Mr. Burns told. reporters.

"There is no need for the United States to make apologies there is no need for China to make apologies. What is needed is for the United States and China to deal with each other with mutual respect and with a mutually agreed upon sense of pragmatism and of wanting to solve problems," he said.

While many contentious issues have damaged Sino-American relations — including trade, human rights and arms sales — and need to be addressed, "We the Harry Wu problem to be solved. Certainly that is high on our agenda," Mr. burns added.

TOKYO (AFP) — As Japan prepares to mark the 50th

anniversary of the atom-

bomb attacks on Hiroshima

and Nagasaki, a former Im-

perial Army officer Wednes-

day disclosed that Tokyo had

a secret wartime drive to

Fifty Japanese scientists

worked during World War II

to build an atomic bomb, but

lacked the uranium compo-

nent essential to make it,

Tatsubaro Suzuki, a former

Imperial Army lieutenant-

colonel involved in the pro-

Japan had the theoretical

know-how to make an atomic

bomb but could not produce

the vital Uranium-235 in

time, Mr. Suzuki, now 84,

told reporters, discussing

the secret project for the first

"We were not successful in

separating Uranitum-235 to a

satisfactory degree," he said,

but added that Japan's theor-

etical physics research was

Japan's project to build an

atomic bomb is completely

unknown to most Japanese

ject, said Wednesday.

build a nuclear bomb.

# China of need for respect, not

WASHINGTON (R) - The United States, rebutting China, insisted there is no need for apologies or excuses on either side ""just "mutual respect" as the two powers try to get their troubled rela-

> crew including 21 members of a medical team from the island of Reunion were killed when a military plane crashed

> in Madagascar, officials said Wednesday. Malagasy military Dakota DC-3 was preparing to land at the capital Antananarivo Tuesday when it plunged to the ground near airport perimeter and exploded in flames.

34 killed in Madagascar plane crash ANTANANARIVO (R) - and nurses of Indian and was under way into what

Workers at the Cook County Medical Examin-er's Office move, the body of a victim re-go (AFP photo)

Edgar declared Cook County

The burning heat has been blamed for 669 deaths nation-

wide including that of a two-

year-old girl in the southern

city of Louisiana who spent

three hours in the family car

where temperatures reached

32 degrees Celsius (90 de-

also took a heavy economic

toll, with losses in agriculture

The heat wave in Chicago

The overflow of bodies

forced officials to add

another refrigerated van to

the seven needed already due

to lack of space inside the

Masked employees, telling

reporters about the powerful

stench inside the examining

room, were kept busy trans-

porting the newly discovered

victims, many in an advanced

state of decomposition, out-

Most of the victims were

elderly or ill people living in

apartments lacking air con-

ditioning. Many victims had

not opened their windows,

Chicago Mayor Richard

Daley instructed city officials

to look into the health of

elderly people and move

they were in danger. But

most emergency shelters lacked air conditioning and

fearing for their safety.

side to the whirring vans.

peaked at 41 degrees Celsius (106 Fahrenheit) Thursday.

and shut-down businesses.

The soaring temperatures

U.S. heat wave toll reaches 669

a state disaster area.

grees Fahrenheit).

CHICAGO (AFP) - The

death toll from the worst heat

causes related to the blister-

ing heat, authorities said.

Temperatures eased Monday

but forecasters predicted that

they could rise again over the

Heat-related deaths were

reported from Texas to New

England in the northeast, but

the Chicago area in the Mid-

west appeared hardest hit.

is over, but nobody knows where it's going to stop," said

Edmund Donoghue, medical examiner for Cook County,

Mr. Donoghue said the fin-

al death toll for Chicago, the

country's third largest city

and a busy financial centre,

would top 400.
Officials in the medical ex-

aminer's officer told AFP

that 30 additional bodies

were stored in refrigerated

trucks pending examination Wednesday with whatever

corpses are found overnight.

"They're just starting to find the bodies," said one

official, who asked not to be

named. A total of 137 bodies

was coundring funeral: homes 101

adding to the 239 already

admitted to the mesgue.

Illinois Governor Jim

They said the chartered

A Transport Ministry

statement said 21 of the dead

were identified as doctors

which includes Chicago.

"It appears that the worst

weekend.

Thirty-four passengers and Pakistani origin with French caused the ageing propellernationality from Reunion. Five of the dead were army air crew from Madagascar and the identity of eight dead had yet to be determined. Six passengers were injured, five seriously, the statement added.

The medical team worked for Karana Humanitarian Association based on Reunion and were delivering staff and medicine to projects in Madagascar, the world's of its poorest countries.

fourth largest island and one Officials said an inquiry forces in the Indian Ocean.

Jury hears Simpson joke about wife-beating

LOS ANGELES (R) — The jury in the O.J. Simpson double-murder trial watched blame it on, er, working out," Simpson said on the video, drawing chuckles from an outtake from an exercise video Tuesday in which the former football star apparently joked about wife

"You've got to get your space in if you're working out with the wife, if you know what I mean. You can always ers were making punching and uppercut movements.

the people working out with him on the tape. Simpson, accused of murdering ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her

friend Ronald Goldman on June 12, 1994, made the comment during a sequence in which he and fellow exercis-

Japan reportedly tried to build atomic bomb 238 at the beginning of the war but the Germans ex-

> Mr. Suzuki said Emperor Hirohito "never had any involvement in the project,

> > Meanwhile, the Americans were using a machine 150 times more powerful at the University of Berkeley in California.

> > 1945, when 40 of us believed it was very, very unlikely that we would develop the bomb before the end of the war,"

> > only just emerged, in part because Mr. Suzuki, in the

#### Diana and sons spotted in Rocky \_ Mountains

DENVER (R) - Celebrity watchers have been searching for Princess Diana and her two sons at all the posh places in the Colorado rockies, but it seems she's taking a real American holiday — going bowling and eating pizza. Princess Diana, the estranged wife of Britain's Prince Charles, was spotted last week at El Jebowl Bowling Alley in El Jebel, Colorado. said Matt Stecklein, assistant manager at his family's bowling alley. "She was with her two sons and a couple other guys," said Mr. Stecklein. who declined to give Princess Diana's shoe size. The bowling shoes she rented were put back on the shelf to be reused, the said. Over the weekend, the royals and a few friends ordered pizzas at Pizza Mama's, near the bowling alley, said Garrett Del Castillo, who waited on the group. "Diana didn't say a word and I didn't recognise her right away. Hey, this is El Jebel, Colorado," said Del Castillo. El Jebel is about 40 miles (65 km) west of Aspen, the trendy ski resort town. The princess arrived in Denver last week but has managed to elude reporters and photographers.

#### Hitler coins stirs outrage in China BELIING (R) - A set of six

commemorative coins, in-

cluding one bearing the face of Adolf Hitler, is selling like hotcakes in a Chinese city and has provoked outrage from scholars who say it should never have been minted. The set, to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, was minted with the faces of Winston Churchill, Franklin Roosevelt, Joseph Stalin and China's two wartime leaders, Mao Tse-Tung and Chiang Kai-Sheik, as well as the anti-Communist Hitler, said the Yangcheng Evening News seen in Beijing Tuesday. The first four were made of copper and coated in 24-kapat gold, while that of Chiang, president of Nationalist China during the war, was white and coated in silver, said the newspaper, printed in the southern city of Guangzhou. After World War II, Chiang lost the civil war to Mao and fled to Taiwan, where the Nationalist government remains in power, saying it alone was the legal govern-ment of all China. The Hitler coin, which has a picture of the Nuremberg War Crime Court on the reserve, side, was black and was designed like an ancient coin, the newspaper said.

#### **'Secret' Stones** concert prompts stampede for tickets

LONDON (AFP) — About 5,000 Rolling Stones fans queued Tuesday to obtain tickets for a "secret" concert in London to round off the British leg of their world tour. But the secret was badly kept and, by Monday night, crowds had already gathered outside a record shop in Oxford Street, central London, where the tickets were to be issued. The venue, at the Brixton Acadamy, in the south of London, holds 3,600 people and is more intimate than the band's usual stadium venues. Tuesday morning a commerical radio broke the news officially and launched a rush for tickets as about 5,000 Stones fans turned up by 10:00 a.m. to claim the remaining 2,500 places. The lucky ones paid £25 (\$40) for tickets and a wristband to prevent illicit ticket sellers from cashing in. "It's been a bit chaotic but very good humoured," a spokesman

#### Robbie Williams leaves Take That pop group

LONDON (AFP) - Teenage hearthrob and singer Robbie Williams announced that he was leaving the British pop group Take That in order to go solo. Williams, who at 21 has amassed a small fortune from his fouryear-old singing career, is leaving his four other partners in the group on good terms, the group manager Nigel Martin-Smith said, "He was no longer able to give Take That the long-term commitment they needed," Martin-Smith said. The group, whose latest song Back For Good has shot to the top of record play lists, will nonetheless go on with its planned summer tour in Manchester and London, but without Williams.



Supporters of the ruling Social Democratic Party (SDP) listen to Tomiichi Murayama, Japanese prime minister and chairman of the SDP, during a campaign raily for the upcoming upper house elections under a placard illustrating Murayams at Hitachi Taga Station in Lbaraki prefecture, 100 kilometres northeast of Tokyo. It will be the first national elections since Mr. Murayama was inaugurated as prime minister last year

## Murayama heading for electoral loss — polls

TOKYO (AFP) — Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama's Social Democratic Party is headed for a crushing defeat in Japan's Senate elections Sunday to shake his grip on power. according to newspaper polls published Wednesday.

The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), the biggest force in parliament, is also projected to gain strength in the House of Councillors and further tip the balance of power within the ruling coalition of leftists and conserva-

The polls, published by three major dailies and the Kyodo News Agency, unanimously predicted a strong gain for Shinshinto (New Frontier Party), an alliance of LDP defectors and centrists. which was formed in Decem-

The three-party coalition may not hit its combined target of 75 seats in the elections to maintain its current strength of 158, the polls

It nonetheless appeared, certain to maintain a comfortable majority in the 252seat upper house of partiament, half of which is elected every three years for a sixyear term.

Mr. Murayama's party, which has lost appeal by compromising its leftist and pacifist creeds after forming the coalition 13 months ago, has taken upon itself to win 22 seats, the number it won in the last upper house elections in 1992.

But the mission now appeared impossible and, in the worst case, Mr. Murayama might be forced to resign and atone for such an electoral failure, the polls suggested.

The influential newspaper Asahi, which polled some 150,400 eligible voters nationwide at the weekend, said the LDP was seen likely to take 50 seats compared with 17 for the Social Democrats and three for the New Party Sakigake of Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura, a third coalition part-

Meanwhile, the grand opposition New Frontier Party was poised to win 32 seats, relying on the organisational skills of its main faction, the Buddhist-backed Komeito, Asahi said.

This would leave the LDP with 111 seats in the 252-seat upper house, the Social Democrats 39, Sakigake three and the New Frontier Party 48 seats.
The mass-circulation

Yomiuri Shimbun, which in-terviewed 56,100 people, also predicted about 50 seats for the LDP, less than 20 for the Social Democrats, a few for Sakigake and 30 or more for the New Frontier Party.

In a similar poll, the newspaper Mainichi said that the LDP would win 49-55 seats, the Social Democrats 12-17, Sakigake 1-5 and New Frontier Party 31-36.

. But all the newspapers pointed to a swelling number of eligible voters who have been disenchanted with Japan's established political parties after years of their futile wrangling.

and is not mentioned in Japanese textbooks.

Research on the project, conducted by the Institute of Physical and Chemical Re-search (RIKEN), was sponsored by the Imperial Palace, and financed to the tune of 10 million yen (\$2.5 million at the time), Mr. Suzuki said.

"We were at such a primitive stage that we had no practical idea how to use the bomb, what we had in mind was to use the atomic bomb to bomb air bases like the island of Saipan from which American B2% were used against Japan," be said.

Around 130,000 people

died in Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, according to some estimates. Three days later, 70,000 died in Nagasaki. Mr. Suzuki said he be-

lieved in the project right up to the end, even faced with the devastation of Hiroshima. "After seeing the victims in Hiroshima, I hoped we would only use the bomb on military targets."

In the last days of the war, three members of the research team, including Mr.

Suzuki, were sent to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to "give some explanation" about this new weapon for the report to be sent to Emperor Hirohito.

never signed anything and was never sent any reports." He said that in the last months of the war, two members of the Imperial Family, both army officers - Emperor Hirohito's younger brother Prince Takamatsu and his cousin Prince Tsumeyoshi Takeda - came to see how the project was

progressing. According to Mr. Suzuki, Japan "did not know" anything of the Manhattan Project, in which the United States developed the bombs that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki, although Japan was aware there was research ongoing on the sub-

Mr. Suzuki said the Japanese had not exchanged any information on the bomb with their German allies. Japan had however tried to buy two tonnes of Uraniumpressed concern about its ultimate use and the deal fell

The uranium used by the Japanese was brought from what is now North Korea. In 1945, Japanese experts, using cyclotron bought in the United States, succeeded in separating the uranium to an intermediate stage, produc-ing four to five kilogrammes (nine to 10 pounds) of uranium hexafluor, a gas.

"There was a point by he said, adding that he thought it needed a lot more

News of the project has last days of the war, was ordered to destroy all documents about it.

aily e A rev. of econom from the Ar Ministr reconsid hotel

classific

system

Minister Abdul said t gened a deal w national compar sider standards ng hotels. Mr. new classifica sespecied to h fore the end o going that th an cooperation Jordanian Hote and investors in He said the n does not aim it existing hotels. unded mainly Jordanian hetei give in the re Lowar)

" The Jordan invesiments Co alocal contractif his week signe ment to start im de irst stage o ing the Amm Han Hotel in Amman area ne: Circle. The JD me which w omed within 216 nk laying the ! in the 313-root ammeting t Intotel proje wapleted in

The Ammar of Commerce i mish a guid lordanian indus üstributed at ti East and North MENA) econon which will be Annan in Oct goidebook wi inglish (A) Aswa

"The Ministry

asked the Asso Foodswiff Merch onsider corfee pr ocal market in conforming to the the commodity's memational me official source sai <sup>Klr</sup>) was keen the interests of onsumers and following the is the association. 7 said the ministry pledges from me reduce prices w coming few day prices were floate alter the rise in co

in international m , Yarmouk [ will establish a cr 900,000 U Assistant Presi Bashir said, Mr. F the centre, whic established in th side of the un campus. will co sores. He said ti is expected to ge

profits of 133,000 (AJ Dust "Royal lordar will soon decide of airliners it w the passer that routes operative p

trenimented and several small air would suit its in strict to Aqaba, Cairo, Beirut. I history, Beirut. Strick will be home the Markey Amm the Marka Amman (Al Ra'i). Russian President Boris Yeltsin (left) looks on as Prime

Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin (centre) goes through some

documents with the member of the Russian delegation for

peace negotiations in Chechenya, Vyacheslav Mikhailov

Grozny Thursday.

were not known.

the conflict.

President Boris Yeltsin

said Tuesday after meeting

Mr. Chemomyrdin that he

had found a solution to three

or four "issues of principle"

that would be presented to

the Chechen side. Details

at the talks is the constitu-

tional status of Chechenya,

the issue at the very heart of

was justified because the

breakaway region was a

"threat to man, society and the state," Deputy Prime

Minister Sergei Shakhrai

argued before the Constitu-

Mr. Shakhrai gave the clos-

ing argument for President

Yeltsin in a case brought by

parliament challenging the

legality of the seven-month

war and the presidential de-

Arguing for parliament,

lawmaker Anatoly

Lukayanov, said political

goals don't justify illegal

He told the court it could

end up contributing to "de-

spotism and the unleashing of

more conflicts" in Russia,

"even civil war," if it rules in

One justice, Valery Zor-

the government's favour."

crees that launched it.

tional Court Tuesday.

Russia's war on Chechenya

The main stumbling block

MOSCOW (Agencies) —

Prime Minister Viktor Cher-

nomyrdin faced jeering by

Russian nationalists in the

lower house of parliament

Wednesday when he spoke

on moves to end the

he initiated and arguing that

the bloodshed in the north

Caucasus territory had to be

stopped. Mr. Chernomyrdin

declared: "Everything must

He faced heckling from ex-

treme right deputies includ-

ing Nikolai Lysenko, head of

the radical National Republi-

can Party of Russia, who shouted "murderer" and

"traitor" at him after he had

Thousands have been kil-

led in the mainly Muslim territory since President

Boris Yeltsin sent in troops

and tanks last December to

crush a drive for independ-

Mr. Chernomyrdin re-

jected charges by Mr.

Lysenko that peace talks

which have been taking place -

between the government and Checken rebels in the region-

al capital of Grozny

broken off for three days last

Sunday when the chief

Chechen delegate fell sick,

amounted to a betrayal.

spoken.

be done to achieve this."

Defending peace talks that

Chechenya conflict.

Chernomyrdin jeered in parliament over Chechenya

mony, saying judges still didn't know "all the motiva-

tions" for the president's de-

The court rebuffed him,

however, and retired to con-

sider its verdict. Kremlin offi-

cials have said they hope for a

ruling by the end of the week.

judges that the Chechen gov-

ernment was guilty of human

rights violations and that be-

Dudayev's supporters and

opponents made it impossible

for Russia to negotiate with

Mr. Dudayev. He said the

real crime for Russia would

that Mr. Yeltsin had no legal

authority to send in troops

without consulting parlia-

Russia covertly back Mr.

Dudayev's opponents, sup-

plying them with arms,

money and political support.

After the covert war failed,

Mr. Yeltsin sent tens of

thousands of troops into

aides have portrayed the war.

as a bid to end Chechenya's

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independence and repeatedly

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took power in an illegal elec-

Mr. Yeltsin and hist top

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N (AFP) - Aha olling Stones a Tuesday to obta r a "secret" come n to round off t eg of their was the secret was b≇ by Monday me ad already gather record shop in 0 e tickets were w The venue, at 5 Acadamy, in f London, holds Ja nd is more inter

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ON (AFP)

Kohl agreed Tuesday to push for fresh ecology measures, including a new car tax aimed at cutting harmful CO2 emissions, as a way to show the party's commitment to protecting the environment. Party leaders also urged deputies to stop speculating

about a possible coalition with the once-radical Greens after the 1998 national election, saying this favourite topic of Bonn gossip was turning off conservative vo-

ters around the country. "The Greens do not have a monopoly on 'green' policies or voters," Bavarian State Premier Edmund Stoiber told German radio Wednesday after the leadership meeting in haust rather than by engine

Mr. Kohi has aiready stolen a

port for the Greens. 'Black-Green' only talks up the Greens, talks the FDP to

death and hurts the Christian Democrats," Mr. Hintze told iournalists. Worries about the future of the Free Democratic Party

(FDP), Mr. Kohl's ailing liberal coalition partner, have been behind both the recent speculation about joining the Greens and the decision now to try to beat them. The liberals have lost all

their seats in 12 of Germany's

More failures in the next four state polls — in Berlin in October and in Rhineland-Palatinate, Schleswig-

Holstein and Baden-Wuerttemberg next March could rule the FDP out as a possible coalition partner for

The CDU would then embark on the highly risky strategy of seeking an overall were only three rather than

Although he has announced he wants to step down in 1998, party officials say Mr. Kohl might well decide to run again just to maximise the CDU's

Under Germany's complex voting law, the CDU would only have to win about 45 per cent of the national vote to gain an absolute majority of seats in parliament.

The CDU won 41.5 per

# Sri Lankan army gives up captured areas, officials say

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lank- Jaffna peninsula. an troops have withdrawn "There are ma from some areas captured last week from Tamil Tiger guerrillas in their northern Jaffna peninsula stronghold, officials said Wednesday, contradicting army state-

ments.
"In many places recently captured by the army, troops have withdrawn. People have begun going back to their homes," a government official, who declined to be named, told Reuters.

The military has repeatedly denied troops have withdrawn from the 78-squarekilometres it says were captured from the rebels in "Op-eration Leap Forward," which took soldiers to within six kilometres of the city of Jaffna.

"I totally deny the army has withdrawn from captured areas," a military spokesman said Wednesday.

"We have not withdrawn but have made some adjustments. We went there in very big strength and the entire strength is not going to stay. Some troops have come

Troops were poised to resume their push on Jaffna town, military sources said Wednesday.

The rebels, fighting for an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east, have admitted losing 80 fighters, including women suicide bombers, in heavy fighting with government troops since Friday.

The military has said 71 soldiers have been killed and 255 wounded in the 10-dayold operation.

The government official, speaking in Vavuniya, the northernmost town under government control, said the army was holding positions

"There are many soldiers there and the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) is getting ready to fight them," he said.

But he said most refugee camps were emptying as people started going back home. A Catholic priest from Jaffna said hospitals in the city were overflowing with civilians wounded in the fighting

and about half of them have

had limbs amputated. "I've never seen such a sight in all my life," he told Reuters at Vavuniya, adding that hospital staff were working round-the-clock to cope with the flood of wounded many of whom were transferred to other hospitals in the peninsula.

On Tuesday, Tamil Tiger guerrillas tried to steal medicine from a hospital but were driven off by police gunfire, police said Wednesday.

About 75 rebels tried to storm the Manampitiya Rural Hospital in the Polonnaruwa district Tuesday night, they said. No casualties were reported on either side.

Police said the guerrillas were apparently trying to get medicines to treat their wounded from last week's battles.

The rebels fled the hospital and set off a bomb on a nearby bridge but caused no damage, police said.

At least three civilians were killed Monday and nine wounded in a clash between an army patrol and rebels in eastern Batticaloa district, a

military spokeswoman said. The civilians were killed "as a result of terrorist mortar and small-arms fire," she

told Reuters. Meanwhile a former Tamil separatist who is now a member of Sri Lanka's parliament north of Alaveddy on the said Wednesday Tamils

heads in silence for about two

ten minutes later in a car at

her head in silence before

leaving. The ceremony com-

memorates the murders on

July 19, 1947, of her father,

seven of his colleagues in the

liberation struggle and a

They were gunned down by men in uniform as they

met to plan the transfer of

security guard.

Ms. Suu Kyi arrived about

minutes, and then left.

would desert the rebel move- ances from the government, ment like ticks from a dying dog once the government announced its devolution package.

Douglas Devananda, two Browning pistols strapped to a khaki belt, urged the government to halt its Operation Leap Forward against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), announce the peace package, then focus on wiping out the re-

Mr. Devananda said his Eelam People's Democratic Party (EPDP) had supported the government because President Chandrika Kumaratunga accepted there was an ethnic problem in the north and east that had to be solved politically.

"There is no second way to defeat the LTTE," said Mr. Devananda at his Colombo headquarters, fortified by 50 EPDP cadres and two watchtowers. "Only after the political package is presented to the people can you defeat the LTTE."

The government has promised to announce measures this month offering the minority Tamils widespread devolution in the north and

The LTTE has been fighting since 1983 for a separate homeland in the north and east. The government says more than 50,000 people have been killed in the war.

The EPDP, which has nine seats in parliament fears the government is too interested in gaining territory rather than winning over Tamils liv-

ing in rebel-held areas." On Saturday, Mr. Devananda told Reuters his party might quit parliament unless the government stopped the offensive. On Wednesday, he said he had four demands on or the EPDP would quit.

"It must assure us it will release the package now, send relief immediately to people in uncleared areas in the north, stop indiscriminate bombing and set up a commission to see what went wrong" in previous bombing

On the first day of Operation Leap Forward, Catholic Church was beombed just north of Jaffna town. Mr. Devananda and the International Committee of the Red CRoss have blamed the air force. The death toll was put at between 65 and 121.

The armed forces must avoid civilians," he said. "And it must stop indiscri-

minate bombing."
"Once the dog dies, the ticks will leave because they cannot take blood," said Mr. Devananda, a founding member of the militant Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) in 1975 and received some of his training in Lebanon.

"Once the government puts the political package to the Tamil-speaking people, the same thing will happen to the LTTE.

"After that you can fight. We don't care if the LTTE accepts the peace plan or not because (LTTE leader Velupillai) Prabhakaran is fighting merely to safeguard his own politics and himself. He wants the war to continue or he wants a separate state so he can hold on to his dicta-

Mr. Devananda said the EPDP's intention was to "defeat the LTTE and rescue" the Tamil-speaking people. 'Any government that can do that we will not only wel-

come, we will give our fullest

### Suu Kyi appears in public for Martyrs' Day

RANGOON (AFP) — Opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi laid flowers Wednesday at the memorial to her father and eight others mur-dered here 48 years ago as

they planned Burma's independence from Britain. The brief, three-minute appearance for Martyrs' Day was her first in public since

her release July 10 from nearly six years of house arrest. Scores of foreign journalists witnessed her appearance, the first time she has participated in the wreathlaying ceremony and the first time the government has

allowed the media to record But the general public was not allowed to attend, and she did not cross paths with the government members who had left moments before

her arrival after paying homage at the monument. Later, after returning home from the ceremony, Ms. Suu Kyi went to the gate of her home three times to talk to a crowd of bundreds of supporters who were taking advantage of the holiday

to come hear her speech. "Follow the path that the martyrs have set for us," she told at least 1,000 clapping, cheering Burmese at a late afternoon appearance, adding that they should not do anything wrong or foolish. She called their visit a tribute to the fallen martyrs as

well as to her. Ms. Suu Kyi also said she was sorry she could not meet personally with everyone who wanted to see her, but "there are only 24 hours in a

day."

The crowd was so large this time that it briefly blocked the five-lane University Avenue, despite the presence of several traffic policemen. "We love her," one taxi

driver said. "We respect and love her." Ms. Suu Kyī also hosted a lunch Wednesday for her household staff, security guards and close friends.

In the late afternoon she invited the huge press corps in for tea but made it clear that no photographs were to be taken and no questions

The solemn Martyrs' Day

ceremony was held early in the morning amid tight security at the Martyrs' Mausoleum, a red concrete monument with a yellow star and a white concrete bier in front. Brigadier Thaung Mying,

the Burmese minister of culture, mounted the steps to the platform and was assisted by an honour guard in placing four wreaths before the monument

He and other members of

power from Burma's colonial ruler, Britain. Independence came to Burma the following

Burmese authorities placed the base of the monument. Wearing a black shawl over Ms. Suu Kvi under house arrest in July 1989 because of a cream-coloured blouse and her strident criticism of the a black longyi (sarong), her face was expressionless as she military government in placed baskets of flowers in speeches ahead of national front and at either end of the elections the next year that were swept by her National The daughter of independ-League for Democracy

January.

ence hero Aung San bowed The junta subsequently refused to recognise the vote and did not hand over power. Since her release, Ms. Suu

Kyi has vowed to continue her efforts to bring democracy to Burma.

On the eve of her first major public appearance in

six years, Ms. Suu Kyi urged

her followers Tuesday to maintain unity in the struggle for democracy.

She conferred with members of her party, as she had done often in recent days. said her cousin and press secretary, Aye Win.

Ms. Suu Kyi later spoke to a crowd of about 300 people outside her home, asking them for love and kindness.

"Before we can achieve what we want, we must be unconditionally united," she told them, adding that the time to work out differences would come after their goal of democratic government was reached. She made a similar appeal to party members and well-wishers Monday, without disclosing her

political plans.



Burmese democratic opposition leader Aung Prize winner officially appeared in public at San Suu Kyi, surrounded by supporters, the tomb of her father, Burma's liberation addresses a crowd gathered in front of her hero Aung San, Wednesday on Burmese Mar-

lakeside compound. The 1991 Nobel Peace tyrs' Day (AFP photo)

### kin, tried to persuade the court to seek additional testiwere scheduled to resume in **15 die as violence escalates in Karachi**

informer.

KARACHI (AFP) — An up-surge of violence claimed 15 lives here Wednesday, ahead of another session of peace

ment and the opposition Mohajir Qaumi Movement (MQM), officials said. Tension was high in western Orangi Township following a pitched battle between police and militants which

talks between the govern-

ing a police officer, security Police in armoured vehicles have intensified their patrols in the area where

residents said. dren in a room and switched off lights," saids Asma Begum, a housewife. "My children started screaming, and I could hear cries from neigh-

left six people dead, includ-

firing erupted Tuesday night,

bouring houses," she added. Police officer Khadim Hussein, 50, was kidnapped by

"I shut myself and my chil-

masked armed men from his

mers," said a note found in Hussein's pocket, a police

Four others were killed in the sprawling eastern industrial district of Korangi, while three were shot dead in Gul-

adding that another person

was shot dead by militants on

suspicion of being a police

"This is the fate of infor-

bahar neighbouring and one more died in sniper fire in the nearby Nazimabad district in

central Karachi, hospital sources said. Shops and markets remained closed and traffic was thin in Gulbahar where five people were shot dead Tues-

Groups of armed men fired guns in the volatile central district of Liaquatabad, forcing shopkeepers to pull down

their shutters. The sudden escalation in

talks between the government of Prime Minister Be-nazir Bhutto and the MQM. which represents the many ethnic Mohajir migrants from

The government has

blamed the MQM for much of the political and ethnic violence in Karachi where more than 2,000 people have died over the past 18 months. The group denies the charge and accuses Mr. Bhut-to of pursuing anti-Mohajir

In their third session Monday, the two sides agreed to cooperate with each other in

efforts to end the bloodshed. The MQM has presented 18 political and social demands, including increased quotas in government jobs and the withdrawal of criminal charges against party lead-

Ms. Bhutto's Law Minister Nabi Dad Khan, who is lead-

peace is established in

during their meeting in the Central Clinical Hospital in

Moscow. During their one-hour meeting they discussed the

peace process in Chechenya, economic reform, December's legislative elections and foreign policy (AFP photo)

sin's television appearance

served to quell rumours ab-

out his health but doubts

remained Wednesday about

his ability to run for reclec-

tion in 1996 after he was

hospitalised with a serious

Mr. Yeltsin, 64, seemed

unusually sprightly in the

television footage that

showed him wearing a track

suit and smiling Tuesday. It

was his first interview since

being rushed to hospital on

heart attack due to

ischaemia" — a condition

which reduces blood flow to

According to press reports Wednesday, Mr. Yeltsin was

only shown on television to

quell rumours about his

health fuelled by publication

of a photograph of the presi-dent which some said was

taken several months ago in

Mr. Yeltsin was shown greet-

ing Prime Minister Viktor

Chernomyrdin with a hug;

and trying to reassure viewers

effort, Mr. Yeltsin remained

terview, lasting nearly 10 mi-

nutes. Apart from being

rather short of breath, the

president appeared relaxed.

through

Perhaps as part of this

hout the in-

about his condition.

In the television footage

Mr. Yeltsin said "I had a

heart condition.

an organ.

the Caucasus.

Ajmal Delhvi said before leaving here for Islamabad that the government should "fulfil their promises" and redress the grievances of the

Mohaiir community. Karachi, Pakistan's largest city and commercial hub, continues to be rocked by daily killing despite the government-MQM talks.

which began on July 11 in Islamabad. Meanwhile, Interior Minister Naseerullah Babar, quoted by the official Associated Press of Pakistan, said the government had decided to withdraw police protection for banks and other establish-

ments in Karachi. police officers would then be free for other assignments, he said, adding the government had decided to recall retired paramilitary person-

#### ing the government team, has said MQM's major demands violence came on the eve of nel to deal with the situation Orangi residence. His body Thursday's fourth round of was later dumped in an iso-German CDU wants to woo 'green' voters

BONN (R) — Germany's ruling Christian Democrats, Struggle for voters." worried by the growing influmarch on the strategy sesence of the Greens Party, plan to compete head-on with sion, lining up last month with a Greenpeace-led camthe ecologists for the support of the country's environmentally-minded vopaign against the planned deep-sea sinking of Shell's Brent Spar oil platform.

A political strategy session ed by Chancellor Helmut After his unusual step of urging British Prime Minister John Major to oppose the plan, the chancellor followed up with another rare move raising with President Jacques Chirac the broad public opposition in Germany to new French nuclear tests.

Mr. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and its Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), now plan to draw up revisions to car taxes by Oct. 5 as the first step towards a new environmental image.

CDU General Secretary Peter Hintze said the party wanted to have car taxes measured according to a vehicle's output of harmful excapacity as at present. He also said that speculation in recent months about a possible "Black-Green" coalition with the environ-

mentalists only boosted sup-"Anyone who talks about

16 states and in national opinion polls now hover just at or below the five per cent minimum they need to hold on to their seats in the federal parliament in Bonn.

the CDU in 1998.

majority in 1998, something it achieved only once before — in 1957 — when there five parties in parliament.

cent in the 1994 election and its FDP partner 6.9 per cent. The opposition Social Democrats Scored 36.4 per cent and the Greens 7.3 per cent. I the government bowed their

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### Free press across bridge?

THE PALESTINIAN National Authority (PNA) has presented the new press law that will govern the working of the media in the self-rule areas as a democratic piece of legislation that upholds the freedom of expression. Many a journalist and human rights activist say the legislation is neither democratic nor conducive to the exercise of freedom of the press. An examination of the provisions of the law tends to support the view of these journalists and activists. It seems that the mentality which governed formulation of the law was not exactly democratic. It appears as though it preferred operating in the dark, believed government organs should be protected from scrutiny and took lightly the people's right to learn not only about public issues but also about the way in which the government handles them. In short, this is the mentality of a by-gone era that is not suitable for the spirit of the new times.

The Palestinian people have for long been suffering from a ruthless occupation that suppressed their freedoms. They have endured more than their share of censorship. As the occupation seems to be coming to an end, though, the Palestinians deserve to enjoy the freedoms without which they will not be able to build their country and develop its institutions. A free press is a major pillar of democracy. Without the freedom to collect and present information on all issues of public concern, it will be difficult to create a system of accountability that will guard against corruption and dictatorship by authorities.

With this in mind, the PNA should not disappoint its constituency. Nor should it depend on a paternal system of government as it tries to establish itself in the self-rule areas. The press law that it formulated rings with alarm about the way in which the PNA seems to be going about asserting its presence in the autonomous Palestinian lands. Palestinian officials must seriously consider the negative implication of the new law for the freedom of the press and immediately reverse it. Otherwise, the new Palestinian entity will have a deformed press, which would not be in anybody's interest. That will bode ill not only for the Palestinian media but also for all Palestinians, including their government.

#### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily urged Jordanians to respond to a call by His Majesty King Hussein to extend a helping hand to the Bosnian people, the victims of Serbian aggression. The suffering inflicted on the Bosnian people, who have been displaced and helpless, should prompt every Jordanian individual and organisation to contribute whatever they can and offer financial and in-kind assistance to the victims of aggression, said Samir Hiyari. Saying that Jordanians have in the past rallied to help victims of disasters in Sudan, Egypt and other parts of the world, the writer said, it would not be difficult for Jordanians to organise shipments of medicine and food to be sent to Bosnia to alleviate the sufferings of and the plight of its Muslim people. Hailing plans by Jordan Television to act as a catalyst in prompting Jordanians to send in contributions through this coming Friday's programmes, the writer said other media should copy this initiative, and journalists have a duty to mobilise Jordanian people's efforts in this regard. The writer said that the Bosnian people are currently exposed to persecution because of their faith and not as consequence of any crime or sin, and they deserve all forms of assistance to help them stand fast in the face of

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour urged the concerned authorities to collect fire arms in the possession of Jordanian people because these weapons have been responsible for many deaths and injuries, causing much suffering to Jordanian families. Mohammad Daoud said that it is regrettable that a government decision several vears ago to collect fire arms has been ignored, with the result that many people still possess automatic rifles and automatic guns not only pistols which they have been using not only during social occasions like weddings but also to take revenge on others following disputes. Succumbing to pressure from many sources, the government has regrettably failed to collect the weapons, which are still found in great quantities in urban and rural regions of Jordan and particularly in the badia.



The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

# Revisiting Palestine: The 19th century is almost over

ABOUT 27 years since my last visit there in 1968, I made a brief trip to Palestine and Israel earlier this week on the happy occa-sion of a family wedding in Nazareth and Jerusalem. The trip, though brief, reinforced all of my previous attitudes and convictions about the nature of Israel and Zionism, and the prospects of mutually satisfactory coexistence, in peace and justice, by Arabs and

Today, obviously, the land is defined by conflict, mutual fear, Zionist colonialism and racism, and Palestinian self-doubt and incertitude. We do not enjoy peace and justice in Palestine. But these which we also call Palestinian national rights — are our goals. The challenge before us now is how to forge, a realistic, strategy that can take us from today's strife, violence and insecurities to the point where Israelis, Palestinians and adjacent Arab societies can all live in dignity and self-confidence.

I am convinced more than ever before that a useful means of moving to-wards this goal is to promote more contacts between Arabs and Israelis - but with one very important provision: That Arabs who travel to Israel should leave behind the bewildering tendency to look at Israelis as either supermen or the devil incarnate. Arab-Israeli encounters are only useful if they promote a more accurate appreciation of the reality of the other side, so that we can address our mutual concerns, dispell our mutual fears and achieve our mutual national goals and rights.

I would guess that the two most enduring character traits that have bedevilled the Arab-Israeli situation in the second half of this century have been the violent racism of modern political Zionism and the state of Israel, and the political and cultural inferiority complex of most Arabs who have had to deal with the Israeli reality.

The violent, racist nature of modern Zionism is perhaps understandable and even inevitable from the post-Holocaust perspective of the Jewish people; if someone had systematically tried to kill several million Palestinians and wipe out any trace of Palestinian culture, it is possible that the surviving Palestinians would have resorted to blind militarism that would have trampled on the national rights of other people who stood in the way of Palestinian survival. If something is understandable, however, this does not mean that it is acceptable --and the institutionalised, racist militarism of Israel is clearly unacceptable to the entire world as a permanent feature of the Levantine

landscape. My most striking impression of what I encountered and saw in Israel was in response to the Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank, and the Israeli settlers and tourists who travelled around the West Bank in armed convoys and buses. At a rest stop along the road just north of Jericho, we saw a group of

nied by armed policemen and soldiers. My reaction was one of deep sadness for

The one word that kept coming to my mind as I watched the settlers and Israeli civilians, and saw the settlements rigned by barbed wire fences and security systems, was: Pathetic. How pathetic are these people, who have built their own prisons and called them settlements, and who have given the world a new and macabre concept: Mobile tourist prisons. I looked at Israelis whose lives are physically and psychologically defined by guns and I felt sadness for them in their new, self-

These are good people, I said to myself, who have turned themselves into pitiful people, because they have allowed their Jewish lives and identity to be defined by the tormenting ghosts of anti-Jewish racism they suffered at the hands of predominantly Christian Europeans. How pathetic, I thought, that in the name of religious nationalism and the morality that they beworld through Abraham, Moses and themselves, that they should end up like this: Not only captives of their own emotional frenzy, but also convicts in their own

barbed wire-ringed camps.
Other than the lamentable dehumanisation of their mournful militarism. the reality of Zionist life in the occupied West Bank is most characterised by the sheer power of its glaring. antiquated colonialism. How sad, I kept thinking, that in the name of their own freedom and safety many Zionist Jews had easily and sometimes even proudly resorted to the colonial militarism of the last century. Are Jews proud that they are the world's last colonial settlers, (mostly) white boys carrying guns and spending their day asking (mostly) dark Arabs to show their identification

cards? I looked for Jews or Israelis in the West Bank without guns and I did not not run into many. I wondered what Abraham and Moses would have thought of their people in this sad condition. But I also knew that these violent people and this corrosive racism were not necessarily the last word of the Jews. I knew that Jews could create better, more humane and compassionate societies than the fortified camps in occupied Palestine.

In Israel itself, a rather different picture emerges. The militarism is still there - soldiers all over the place, but not, in fact, very different from the martial nature of most modern Arab capitals, where uniformed and ununiformed security personnel are a deeply entrenched feature

of the modern landscape. Travelling through Israel was a complex but also heartening experience for me. I was impressed by some of the positive aspects of Israeli society - the European urbanism, the legal system, the social benefits and other such things. For Jews, Israel offered many good things. For

Israeli Arabs, Israel offered the tantalising promise of good things, but the reality that Arabs could only partially fulfil their aspirations - for Israel remains, in its own self-image, a Jewish state in which Jews have superior rights. This is not officially stated, but it is an obvious reality of life. It

may also be understandable from a Zionist perspective, but like any aspect of insti-tutionalised racism, it is equally untenable in the long run.
Despite the glaring ine-

quities of occupation and the second class quality of the citizenship of Arab-Israelis, the dominant feeling I had in Palestine and Israel was that I would not allow myself to fall into the same emotional, militaristic and racialist quagmire that most Israelis had succumbed to I would not blindly hate the Israelis and seek to kill them merely as an expression of my political denial and communal suffering. I would not build my own armed camps. I would not travel in armed convoys in my own ancestral land. I would not deny my humanity in favour of a crazed tion of a gun. I would find a better way than Zionism did to assert my personal humanity, my communal dignity and my national and political rights.

The quest for mutual coexistence and national rights between Arabs and Israelis cannot totally ignore the pain and rights abuses of the past and the present; but neither can it succumb to them as the primary determinats of our political psychology and strategic policy-making. The whole point of making peace is to generate the human capacity not only to negotiate a satisfactory conclusion to mutual material or political claims against one another, but also to forge a psychological reconciliation that transcends and truly buries the deep wounds of the past.

I sensed in Israel that this was possible, as I had always thought, and I felt more convinced than ever before that the most effective way to reach this goal is to develop more people-topeople contacts between Israelis and Arabs — non-racist contacts in which people can relate to each other as spiritual and demographic partners in our ancient and blessed homeland. This will take a long time to happen, but I believe that we are on that road, and that successes will come in an incremental, gradual manner.

On the surface, Israel is a technologically advanced European culture from which we can learn and absorb many positive features - but meaningful interaction between us can only occur when the racist discrimination and petty apartheid-like humiliations are removed from the equation. Beneath the surface, Israel is fundamentally a Levantine, Semitic society which makes its racism so much more painful for us to grasp and endure. As the peace process makes progress, I anticipate a continued orientalisation of Israeli society and a Levan-

tisation of Zionism: Like all

other foreign cultures that region, Zionism also will slowly succumb to the tremendous absorptive power of our Arab/Islamic/ Semitic culture in which Muslims, Christians and Jews are founding corporate partners. Israel's official accept-

ance in this region will relax and ultimately remove the racialist and colonial barriers that now demean us both. The pathetic Zionist settler mentality will have to succumb to the more enlightened attitude of the majority of Israelis. We on the Arab side, people and governments alike, have to make an important decision: Do we look at Israel and see only the sadness and almost sadistic savagery of the soldier-settlers, these oddball relics of 19th century European colonial savagery who stand out in the entire world like embarassing freaks? Or do we summon the maturity and power of our Arab-Islamic culture and look deeper into the soul of Israeli society, there to seek out and touch a different reality?

These are difficult issues tions to ask. But they cannot be avoided very much longer. We would look very foolish indeed if we tried to deal with the reality of Israel only by deferring to the false pride of the loser: That history will avenge our losses and humiliations, that future generations will redeem our spiritual well-being and national integri-

Israel is neither superhuman nor the devil incarnate. It is a society of individuals who, like ourselves, have been subjected to historical wrongs and sufferings, but who, unlike ourselves, have responded with diligence, sacrifice, initiative and a capacity to work together for the common good. We made many mistakes earlier this century in not dealing with the threat and challenge of Zionism in a rational and effective manner. We stand at a potential turning point today where history may be offering us an opportunity to once again redraw the map of this region, and address the needs and rights of all its people. We would be very childish to respond with the same emotional excesses, nationalistic bom-bast, domestic political in-competence and diplomatic weaknesses that have defined the Arab predicament for most of this century.

The exact, complex nature of Israeli society and the possibilities of forging mutually satisfying Arab-Israeli relations stand out as compelling issues that have to be discussed in the Arab World, and between Arabs and Israelis. I returned from Palestine and Israel more convinced than ever before that the promise of peace was both tangible and desirable, but that it could only be achieved by delivering justice to both sides, and justice, in turn, could only be forged through a process of simultaneous human sensitisation to our mutual fears and hopes. The 19th century is almost over. It is time to move into the 20th century, for both Arabs and Israelis.

The View from Academia

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

# Teachers and exchange programmes

THERE IS no doubt that exchange programmes, research grants and seminar gatherings, for college and university teachers are quite fundamental to their academic, intellectual and psychological welfare. Indeed more is gained from taking part in a programme abroad than many may think.
Though some college and university teachers in the Arab World engage actively and make good use of such international grants and seminars, many do not, for a

The exchange programmes I am talking about here are (putting aside conferences and short-term employment opportunities) essentially research grants and seminars. The two types of programmes are slightly different, even though they ultimately have much in common. Research grants focus on academic research, which we consider part and parcel of university life. The individual college or university teacher, who is expected to be both an instructor and a researcher, chooses a topic or theme within his/her field of specialty and takes time off (away from administrative and teaching responsibilities which, especially in the case of Arab universities, are time-consuming) to study at length at an academic or research institution abroad equipped with more facilities and resources than the home institution. The whole period of time (usually the summer) is entirely devoted to the study of the theme or topic and to

the writing up of the findings.

The seminar entitles a person to read about and discuss a certain theme within the realm of (or within a related realm to) one's specialisation. The interesting thing about seminars, such as the one lametaking part in at the Johns Hopkins. University, is that they enable the college or university. teacher to meet regularly with colleagues from a number of institutions (10-15) under the supervision of a specialist in the narrow field and exchange opinions about the subject or subjects under focus — a subject which one has always wanted to read about and discuss but somehow never had

The benefits of research programmes and seminars are

First and foremost, they deepen one's knowledge of one's specialty. In any discipline and any field, there is something new everyday. One needs to keep up with the new happenings, developments, discoverise, inventions, theories, opinions, etc. Presently, we live in an extremely revisionist age, where (in all disciplines and all fields, the sciences as much as the humanities) academics, scholars, and researchers are revising, reinterepreting and redefining many of the things we take and have taken for granted. A fundamental feature of the nineties is that everything is being deconstructed and reconstructed. We need to be alert to what is happening within our own fields and

This is especially important for people from the so-called developing world, i.e. us in the Arab World. One keeps up, not only through what one comes across in the seminar orthe research project but also through the news the participants bring with them, the excellent libraries and information resources available, and the projects others colleagues are involved in. Even though some research is going on in our part of the world, most of it happens

As we in the Arab World (and one says this with a grain of salt) are more recipient than participant or inventive, even within the realm of our own fields, I am afraid it is a must for us to get involved more actively in gatherings abroad than individuals from other nations.

Secondly, they are significant intellectually. The merb fact that one is meeting, throughout the period of one's stay, several new people and several old acquaintances (within one's discipline and outside it) is itself a great plus In addition to what goes on in the seminar (which is? normally of a sophisticated intellectual calibre), much goest on outside. Over lunch, before and after the seminar, in the informal get-togethers and in study rooms, people not only exchange news but also discuss and debate ideas. Such intellectual encounter (be it on political, cultural, economic or other kinds of issues) certainly enriches one's experience and sharpens one's mind. At most of our institutions (unfortunately) not much intellectual challenge is to be found. The teaching itself has obviously its own challenges and rewards, but most of the time it is not intellectually fulfilling.

I believe that teachers ought to make use of exchange programmes. I know, of course, that many people are eager to take part, but the opportunity does not arise. For one thing, grants and seminars are highly competitive and are limited; for another thing, many do not know how and

### **LETTERS**

## It happened before Bosnia

To the Editor:

THE CHILLING apathy shown by the great major. ity of the privileged world to the horrors in Bosnia is sadiy a repeat performance of so many previous. occasions when indifference to the suffering of others; was the order of the day — be they Palestinians, Bengalis, Argentinians, Cambodians, Biafrans, etc. We would all do well to reflect on the words uttered by the Lutheran Pastor Martin Neimöller in 1939 in Berlin, and strive to strengthen our altruism.

First they came for the Jews, But I did not speak out. For I was not a Jew.

Then they came for the Communists, And I did not speak out, Because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the trade-unionists, And I did not speak out, Because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics, And I did not speak out, Because I was not a Catholic.

Then they came for me,

And there was no-one left to speak out for me Pastor Neimöller was held in Dachau for the lastyears of the war and was sentenced to death for his: opposition to the Nazis. The war ended just as the? sentence was due to be carried out and the Pastor spent the rest of his life working for ecumenical and

(Princess) Sarvath El Hassan

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## SOCIETY ON THE MOVE

# Courts bind and diplomats bond, in more ways than one

I.T. on the move too

Jordan Times readers surely have détect-

ed not so much a trend as an experimen-

tation with some novel looks lately in the

layout of pages, particularly three, one and this one in the Weekender supplement. But blips and bloopers here and

there are ever nagging thorns in a page

editor's side, especially when an interest-ing story ends in mid-sentence. Let us try

to explain. Management took the long-

recommended plunge some three months

ago to dive into the 20th century (just as

it is coming to an end) and computerise

and remodel our facilities. The switch

from "cut and paste" to display monitor layout has had some dizzying effects on our somewhat conservative (in form, not

content) editors. The scene at the I.T.

has been one of techno-novices experi

menting (sometimes unsuccessfully) with

new magic at their fingertips, while danc-ing around piles of rubble in the middle

of the newsroom and competing with the deafening beat of sledgehammers and

power drills. No one seems to know how

long this process will last. Rumours esti-

mate it may be anywhere between three

months and five years. Whatever the out-

come, the J.T. staff are hardened hacks

and thus want their readers to rest

assured that they will weather this storm

too to bring you news and information

come what may. We would like to believe that gremlins haunt the newsroom, but

our sense of reality tells us otherwise. We

Having retired or transferred quite a few advisers whom he inherited from his predecessor Abdul Salam Majali. Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker seems to be working on bringing in a new generation of advisers. Such appointments are never easy to predict or explain. But earlier this week the Council of Ministers approved the second appointment in as many months of a new adviser at the prime ministry. He is Musa Jaghbir, who had been director of the Free Zones Corporation (FZC). The first appointment was that of Marzoua Hadid who had worked as director of the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development. Mr. Jaghbir's move seems to be connected with the reinstatement, by a binding court decision, of Falah Qudah to his old job as director of the FZC. Mr. Qudah was retired by the Majali government last year, but he contested the decision at the Higher Court of Justice and won the case. What else can the government do except accept what the judges rule? It is democracy.

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d about and discussions in a related cult The art of balance: Overlooking the Mediterranean, queezed into part of a wing of Tel Aviv's Dan Hotel, are Jor-Janian Ambassador Marwan Muasher and his small but dedicated diplomatic and administrative staff. Despite the tight quarters, mounting papers and excessive humidity, the embassy team (some of whom have been there for nearly eight months) has managed to set up an advanced system of information gathering and dissemination, and visa processing, while the ambassador juggles sensitive diplomatic issues, interviews with the press, and courtesy visits by wellwishing Palestinians, Jordanians and Israelis, and friends. which is how we obtained a first-hand look at his operations. Most recently, a group of 20 men from an Arab village crowded into Dr. Muasher's 3m X 3m office to pay their respects and show their support. Moved by the visit, Dr. Muasher remarked that his primary aim is to strike a balance in understanding between Jordanians, Palestinians and

Israelis -- a task that requires extraordinary skill and stamina. Although a new, significantly more spacious site has been located for the embassy, the staff who braved new waters ploughs on with its work undeterred by the swelling wave of duties and responsibilities of Jordan's first embassy

Diplomacy lives: Well-wishers turned out en masse Monday evening to the Hussein Youth City where Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Nuri Al Weiss was celebrating Iraq's nitsional day. Not only senior officials attending but also people from all walls of life were noticeably higher in num-ber than in more recent years. According to one newspaper report, 300 guests were invited, but an independent eyewitess estimated those present to be at least 1,000. The car park, which is considerably large, was nearly bursting with cars that on the best count numbered more than 300, the eyewitness maintained. Those who went inside were thus a good 1,000. They included Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariii. Speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament hmad Lawzi and Saad Hayel Srour, Chief of the Royal Jurt Marwan Qassem, Senator and former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and his wife Muna, Senator Abdul Majeed Shoman, and Jordan Press Association President Suleiman

Qudah. The degree of warm hand-shakes and genuine smiles

observed that evening seemed to indicate a perhaps more

sober trend in the delicate world of inter-Arab rapport.

Enter stage right: Just returned from "Down Under" is Edwina Issa, head of performing arts at the New English School, after representing Jordan at the second International Drama and Theatre in Education (IDEA) World Drama Congress, hosted in Brisbane, Australia — a significant debut for theatre in the Kingdom. Ms. Issa was one of 1,200 delegates to attend the conference focusing on the issue of theatre as part of an educational curriculum. Jordan, as it

turned out, was the only Middle Eastern country represent-

ed at the congress. "Jordan has made terrific strides in theatre and education," says Ms. Issa, who has been active in theatre education in Jordan since 1983 and is currently working with the Ministry of Education to draft a syllabus for theatre in education. "Only two years ago did we allow theatre to be part of an education curriculum, but we are already this year writing a syllabus for it." The proof of Jordan's dramatic strides revealed itself in the final act of IDEA congress: Ms. Issa was elected Vice President of the G.M.C. of IDEA, the largest body in the world concerned with theatre and education. We applaud Ms. Issa on her appointment and may she face many a standing ovation for her contributions to theatre in Jordan from "down under" to up top.

Spatial longings: Congratula-tions are in order as well to a friend and colleague, Abdul Majid Asfour, managing editor of Al Ra'i Arabic daily, on his recent appointment as Amman city counsellor. It is expected that Mr. Asfour will seek to join Ms. Issa in top-billing Jordan's cultural environment. Mr. Asfour is the first from our ranks to be appointed to a city service position. While he comes from a family tradition of business and civil service, Mr. Asfour insists that it is most likely that he was appointed on the basis of his personal character. But it may also be because he has a pur sense of reality tells us otherwise. We rather "spiritual" platform! "I want to revive the soul of Amman," he says

simply. At the top of his agenda is giving people more space. "People need more room to be creative. We need theatres for children. . .more places for artists to exhibit their works and for people to appreciate them. . . adequate (city) space to walk, relax and enjoy. I want to give more emphasis and attention to the creative aspects of city living," he says, "not just building infrastructure."

Weekend warriors: They are promoting it as "Just another practice game," but tradition indicates otherwise. It is probably more likely that the Britons and the Aussies will be shedding blood for victory during a cricket match to be battled out Friday on the grounds of the Royal Riding Stables. The event, called rather burningly, "Desert Ashes," is sponsored by the British and Australian embassy clubs and the Marriott Hotel and commences at approximately (you know how these things go) 3:30 p.m., is a first for the two friendly (?) rivals. But according to Martin Cronin, second secretary of economics and information at the British embassy, both parties hope to see it become an annual event. "The Australians suggested the idea, and we gladly accept-

> will be a big event -- "possibly the match of the century" reads one promotional flyer. Mr. Cronin says he "has a feeling that Pakistani Ambassador Sarwar Nagvi, an admitted cricket fan, will be presenting the trophy to the winners." The British embassy is hoping that an invitation to Friday's affair may inspire His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the Royal Palace to accept a long-standing invi-tation put forth by British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe to take part in a British Embassy v. the Hashemite Palace challenge. We just wonder if what is holding back the Palace contenders is the dress code of cricket

> ed," he says. He adds that the match

Make a note: With the "temporary" closure of the Outback Bar at the Australian embassy, the British embassy apparently felt the need to assume responsibility for the sure-tobe-missed Thursday evening entertainment spearheaded by Brian Pullen who has left his Amman post to Canberra. The British substitute will be open through the summer, say embassy staff members and will serve the diplomatic core. But, according to "watering hole" know-it-alls, anyone can partake of the British Isles-style revelry upon invitation by embassy club members or by simply ringing up the embassy in advance of the weekend and requesting that his/her name be penned into the guest list. Now that that is settled, any suggestions for what to name the flagship hot spot?

Stepping back in time: If the visual arts are more your cup of tea, then consider stepping back in time and taking a seat at the partly restored Roman theatre at Umm Qais where only a month ago the Norwegian embassy organised a sunset opera event that reincarnated the stage after nearly 2,000 years. Riding on the success of that evening the organisers of the Jerash Festival and proprietor of Romero's Restaurant Zeid Goussous will light the torches for a onenight presentation of an opera recital by famous Polish baritone Krzysztof Borysiewicz. Mr. Borysiewicz will be accompanied on piano by Katarzyna Jankowska next Wednesday

evening. The following Monday, the theatre will be host to "Drum and Dance" performance by the Guem Group of France, who will move to a mix of Western and African rhythms. Preparing for such events is not without complications -- the Romans certainly must have had it easier -- says Mr. Goussous. He recalls that for the Norwegian opera night, part of a week of "Encounters" between Norwegian and Jordanian performing and visual artists, the plano for the opera recital had to be brought in by crane and wiring for the lighting system was stretched 300 metres from the Umm Qais Resthouse to the theatre. Still some most unexpected, yet charming, interruptions made of strange encounters of another kind, including a cow which moved and a shepherd in a nearby olive grove who intermittently added his own accompaniment of "Yal Leil, Ya Ei'ni" to one of Norway's top opera stars high Cs during the actual performance. With that rural experience under his belt, Mr. Goussous is more concerned with an unpredictable summer evening shower, and will certainly have his eye out for an uninvited goat making its way to the salad bar. Both events are to be followed by a gala dinner at the Resthouse. And if you are one to do things in threes, you can mark Aug. 2 on your calendar for a musical recital by Italian pianist Alberto Pomeranz at Mount Nebo, followed again by a gala dinner catered by none other than Italian cuisine artisans from Romero's.

In the wild blue yonder: When Omar Bilal is in the "driver's seat" the sky's the limit. This highflying member of the Royal Falcons, the national air acrobatics club, won the Britling Cup last week for the best performance in the freeflying round of the Big Thunder Air Show in the U.K. Upon hearing of Captain Bilal's King Hussein, often see at the throttle himrang

Captain Omar Bilal

Dahabi to coneratulate him Captain Bilal and all the Royal Falcons team who are in Europe participating in several annual air shows.

> Jennifer Hamarneh Amy Henderson

# In the land of darkness the blind man is king

By John Sanders

hat many people Reuter LONDON - Visitors to nightly compensation. an exhibition on London's do not know hor-South Bank see nothing. Plunged into blackness, The sound of bird song and running water, the scent and touch of trees and a gentle breeze reveal to

> them a park. The aim of the exhibition, Dialogue In The Dark, is to show sighted people what it feels like to live in a world without visual stimulation.

"The exhibition allows ou to begin to see what it's like to be without sight, but not what it's like so many retion be blind... The black-le suffering of the ness people experience into be blind ... The blacke they Palesul side is different from what you see if you're totally blind." said June Bretherton, manager of the ex-

"If you've never seen at all, you see nothing at all, or if you've lost your sight as I have, you see coloured patterns."

Coaxed deftly on by a blind or partially-sighted guide and gingerly sweeping the white sticks issued to them on entry, visitors shuffle in groups of about 10 between the exhibition's four environments.

They are guided from the park across a noisy road, into a home and finally into an eerily quiet

With no sight, simply ordering and paying for a

drink becomes a major challenge. Visitors fumbling for bank notes must rely on the honesty of the blind barman to identify the denomination of the

Only when people start talking does the bar assume shape and size, and voices are crucial in negotiating the slalom of unseen tables, chairs,

money pulled warily from

"One has to talk or otherwise one doesn't know where everybody else is," said Bretherton, who is also honorary secretary of Britain's Blind Business Associa-

walls and pillars.

Dialogue In The Dark,

adapted from a concept developed in Germany. has attracted more than 6,000 visitors since opening on May 4 and is due to run until July 30, having won extra funding from its financial backer British Telecommunications.

The exhibitors aim to have at least three different environments to demonstrate how a blind person experiences the natural world, social situations and urban life.

How this has been achieved in the different countries where exhibitions have been staged depends on the designer, said Bretherton. Visitors to Dialogue In

The Dark have included

tourists, architects, designers, actors, people in the field of visual impairment and those with visually impaired relations who want some inkling of what it is

like to be without sight. As a result of one visit, a mother discovered why her blind son refused to accompany her into the shopping mall.

'Ône woman stopped off because her son had gone blind and she wanted some sort of an idea of what it was like. What came over to her was how loud everything sounds,' Bretherton said.

The London exhibition is housed in an area normally reserved for skateboarding.

Elsewhere in Europe stage managers have used a range of venues for the

concept. "In Vienna it's been in a stately home and a sports hall. In Paris a theatre, in Avignon a castle. It's been in museums. It's on a barge in Liege at the moment. In France they're putting it on a train,'

Bretherton said. "In Vienna they tried a supermarket. That failed because everyone kept ripping the packets un-

The exhibition has an unusual effect on some

people. A few take fright at plunging into darkness and refused to go round it,

but Bretherton said most find the experience rewarding.

success.

Májestv -

President Nader

"Most people are surprised at how quickly they start using their other senses. They find it an almost liberating experience. One man even stripped naked," said Brether-

"In a way, because we use our other senses more, we feel we have a richer experience of life than most other people... We feel our lives quite enhanced by not being able to see," she said.

The exhibition is sponsored by the Royal National Institute For the Blind, one of Britain's leading charities for the visually impaired.

Construction cost £100,000 (\$160,000) and the organisers hope that, with the extension until the end of July, it will

break even. As well as opening to the public, Dialogue In The Dark runs and educational programme, invites school groups and aims to offer visual impairment awareness training for organisations.

"Its purpose is bridge building and communica-tion... It's about making use of the other senses that we hope other people will continue to use at an increased level when they leave the exhibition," said

# Old piazza life feels nudge of modern Italy

By Brian Murphy The Associated Press

ROME — After a brawl in a grimy fringe of Rome, police blocked the street and neighbours discussed how a pleasant summer night could turn so steamy with rage.

: No jobs, someone said. Another blamed drugs. A man leaned from a wino speak out id dow and growled his opin-Dachau for fore no soul

nced to death fore no soul. ar ended just moving beyond just curb-out and the side philosophu g for ecuments side philosophy.

Urban planners around claim the historic role of the piazza or rebours have traded gossip,

merchants peddled wares and politicians made promises. The easy gatherings, central to Italian life, have long created a sense of community soul, in one man's view. that can alleviate misunderstanding.

At the same time, however, others wonder whether technology and changing habits are sapping the traditional purpose for piazzas, leaving them attractive anachronisms like gas lamps and horse carriages.

"The idea of the piazza is not dead, but it's ailing," said Mario Isnenghi, a University of Venice history professor and author of a recent book on the

evolution of the piazza. Isnenghi's research funnels into one central question: Is there space for the old piazza culture in a contemporary Italy of supermakerts, cellular phones and round-the-

clock television? "I'm not trying to be pessimistic, but we've already seen some losses." said Isnenghi.

The withdrawal of politicians from the piazza to the TV studio has been one of the most noticeable changes. As recently as the mid-1980s, political groups held giant outdoor rallics as their main way to reach out to voters. Now. the small screen is the preferred forum.

And many piazzas have

seen better days, left to become parking lots.

But the piazza hasn't been completely snubbed. Labour groups still pack squares when they're looking to make a point. An estimated 1 million people marched through a central Rome piazza in November to denounce proposed pension cuts.

At night, teenagers careen their motorbikes through campo Di Fiori, the hot piazza of the moment for pre-disco gatherings in Rome. One of Italy's most recent television programmes was a karaoke songfest that travelled to piazzas around the country. And tourists are forever

drawn to the most picturesque of them, to eat gelato and look on Bernini's fountains in Rome's Piazza Navona, feed pigeons in the enormous Piazza San Marco in Venice or stroll along Florence's Piazza Della Signoria outside the Uffizi

Museum. What trend mavens are watching, however, are the times between the shouts of protesters and the squeal of Vespa motorscooters. They worry about leisure time increasingly moving from. the piazza to the living room couch.

"I wouldn't declare the piazza a thing of the past, but the 'virtual piazza' of TV is a powerful force," said Ezio Genovesi, a Rome architect. Italy's surge into afflu-

ence also strikes at the simple ideals of the piaz-The millions of new cars

purchased since the 1970s need spaces — and many piazzas are now fancy parking lots with fountains and Baroque trimmings. And with cars comes mobility: To Americanstyle supermarkets rather than the piazza food stalls or to country homes on weekends instead of cooling off outside with neigh-

Gianni Panni tipped his chair back on its back legs and watched the Saturday night crowd in a piazza in

Rome's old Trastevere section. A group of tourists passed by eating ice cream.

Panni, 72, chomped on a watermelon and spit the seeds on the cobblestones. He recalled how he and his neighbours filled the piazza until late on summer night. Many of his old friends have died. Younger residents appear to have other ways to spend their time.

"I feel like a ghost," he This type of nostalgia

gives hope to piazza preservationists. Rome's mayor, Francesco Rutelli, has ordered a design contest to spruce

up 100 piazzas around the

In Perugia, planners are trying to restore five rundown piazzas on the edge of the city.

A New York researcher, Michelle Lafoe, believes the traditions of the piazza are rooted strong enough to withstand the tug of progress.

"Sure, there is E-mail, TV, VCRs and everything else that distracts from what the piazza is all about," said Lafoe, who is working on a doctoral dissertation of piazzas.

"But what I've seen is that the piazza is still a source of information and human interaction that still has no equal. There's nothing like face-to-face contact.'

# Cybercops and traffic jams

By Jean-Claude Elias

The Internet is invading the planet. The global computer network, accessible virtually to all PC users worldwide, including those in Jordan, is attracting more and more members. Recent statistics estimate that about 50 million people are already connected and a monthly increase of 10 per cent is being

Such a rapid expansion doesn't go without problems. All kinds of them actually. From monster jams and on-line pornography to abusive junk mail, triviality and big-brother style monitoring, what constitutes a dream for some is turning to a nightmare for others.

Recently, Canter and Siegel, famous for the American "Green Card Lottery" they run each year, had the idea to use the network to promote their business. They were rewarded by a relatively acceptable profit and... the worst traffic jam that ever occurred on the Internet. They were also flooded by a quantity of information that was totally irrelevant to the subject they were promoting.

Junk mail is another unpleasant fallout of the network's popularity. When you receive such promotional material in the regular mail, you often know what it contains before opening the envelope, which therefore ends in the waste basket without even being opened. When you receive junk mail via any computer communications system, part of your computer's precious time is booked in order to upload (receive) the message being sent. The prob-lem is that you cannot tell if the material is of any interest to you before seeing it. The new World Wide Web should allow users to decide what topics to read or not to read before uploading or downloading

The widespread usage of pornographic images and photographs is worrying those who want to keep the network clean, like Microsoft's Bill Gates. The creation of control committees who may appoint cybercops (from cybernetics, the science of comput-ing, and cops) to do random checks on material being

Thursday, July

1:30 Iris-The Happy Pro-

2:15 My Secret Identity

20

1:40 Noddy

2:30 N.B.A.

raphic

2:00 Fireman Sam

3:00 Pirates Island

3:30 Take Your Pick

4:00 I Witness Video

7:30 News Headlines

4:30 French Programme

7:35 National Geog-

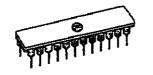
8:30 The Album Show

9:15 Murder She Wrote

10:00 News In English

10:25 Movie — The

chip talk



exchanged between users is seriously under consideration. As one can expect, in the name of liberty and privacy protection, many are against such controls. Technically speaking, the job of the cybercops-

to-be wouldn't be different from phone tapping.

The irregular quality of the material available on the Internet also constitutes one of its major weaknesses. There is no warranty that the subject someone is searching for or browsing through will give him or her satisfaction. Given the unbelievable quantity of information proposed on the network, there is no way to know in advance that the actual contents, the veracity of the data one is receiving, can be trusted or that the quality of the writing is of any acceptable standard. As "PC Pro," a specialised British maga-zine put it in their July release, "triviality is becoming dangerous."

There are also gross misclaculations. While one has the possibility to receive popular magazines on the Internet, buying the hard copy equivalent from the newsstand is not only cheaper but lets you enjoy better quality photographs and more realistic colours, not to mention easier storage. Unless someone needs to have the magazine stories or reports in electronic format to reuse them in a word process, a paper copy is far more interesting.

The Internet is in dire need of cleaning, filtering and fine tuning. When these are done, the network will be smoother, less expensive to use, and a much more efficient tool. Until then, it remains under the

5:00 French Programme

7:35 You Bet Your Life

8:30 The Bold And The

10:00 News In English

10:25 Death Of Apar-

11:30 New York Under-

12:00 Keeping Up

Wednesday, July

2:00 Problem Child

2:30 Super Champs

3:00 Documentary

3:30 Amazing Stories

5:00 French Programme

7:30 News Headlines

Mysterious Universe

7:35 Documentary -

Arthur C. Clarke's

8:00 Anything For A

8:30 The Bold And The

9:15 Documentary -

Blood And Belonging

10:00 News In English

Tomorrow's World

4:00 Families

Laugh

Beautiful

Appearances

7:30 News Headlines

8:00 Piglet Files

9:15 Urban Angel

Beautiful

threat of becoming a chaotic web.

# Common people

By Samer Ghaleb Bagaeen

"She came from Greece She had a thirst for knowledge

She studied sculpture at St. Martins College Caught her eye"

So go the first few lines of one of the biggest songs of the year so far. The song is Common People by the British band Pulp.

If you are at all unsure about the meaning of the

word "pulp" all you have to do is look it up in a dictionary. A "pulp," you will discover is, among other things, a magazine or book using rough-surface paper made of wood pulp and often dealing with sensational material. Hence, for example, Pulp

The popularity of the song stems from a youth culture in the United Kingdom, and in Europe, where anything goes. Where being down to earth is hip, and where keeping up appearance matters least. Where vegetarian restaurants are in and up town classy ones are out.

All this and more has become part of the daily life of a generation where the comforts and luxuries of daily life are easily available to all, especially those under 25 years of age. And one of those ex-luxurious items is the mobile, or cellular phone; a service transformed from an extravagance into a moneysaver. A bulky, unreliable business tool 10 years ago. mobile phones have become fashion accessories.

A feature in the British Independent newspaper last week revealed that the mobile phone revolution has reached its logical target: The dial-obsessed, digit happy, talkaholic teenage market. Recent surveys in the U.K. revealed that a third of the entire mobile market is taken up by people aged 24 and under.

The report attributes the success of the mobile revolution to a scheme launched some 18 months ago by one of the telephone operating companies, Mercury, whereby free local calls where offered daily after 7 p.m. and at weekends. Through a subscription to this scheme it was possible for parents to buy their children a free phone service for less than £150. All this, and more, means that instant communications have become a prerogative and not a privilege.

Now that we in Jordan are about to open up the mobile phone revolution, would we be liable to the same terms of use as our British counterparts? I think

Instant communications is bound to be a privilege if it is priced out of the range where most people would be able to take advantage of the service. And while a Motorola mobile phone can be purchased in the U.K. for as little as £10, it remains well overpriced over here. Just as everything else really.

While our counterparts in Europe, twentysomething-year-old people, are able to buy a new car for nearly three-quarters of their annual salary, the same model over here would cost us anything up to six times the nnual salary.

It would be great if, sometime soon, everything that is taken for granted in several countries of the world could be easily available for our daily use, and for all of us. For maybe then, we too can learn to be as immaterial and down to earth as our counterparts in those countries.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

TEST YOUR MEMORY



Carefully examine the above picture and then answer the questions below:

Waino Aaltonen, sculptor, was the artist to design the statue you see in the picture.

1. What's his nationality?

2. Is he a 19th or 20th cent. artist?

3. Where does the statue stand?

4. Whose statue is it?

\* \* \* \* \*

#### FANTASTIC FACTS

Who discovered vaccination?

This honour goes to Dr. Edward Jenner (1749-1823) who was talking to a patient, a milkmaid, when she came out with the chance remark that she could not catch smallpox as she had already had cowpox, an infection which is caught from handing cows udders and, she declared, rendered her immune to the dreaded smallpox responsible in those days for the death or disfigurement of thousands of people. Jenner had never heard of this idea and began experimenting with cowpox germs until he had perfected an effective safeguard against smallpox by inoculating healthy people with cowpox germs and then germs of smallpox. The latter disease did not take.

When his discovery was published, honours were heaped on him from all quarters. Germany celebrated his birthday as a holiday and in Russia the first child to be vaccinated was named "Vaccinov" and given free

Napoleon, then at war with Britain, set free an English prisoner at Jenner's request because, he said: "We can refuse him nothing.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### TIME FOR FUN

★ PASSENGER: You'll bring me bank safely. won't AVIATOR: Have no fear. I've never left anybody

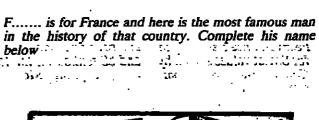
up there yet.

\* \* \* \* \*

★ TRUDY: Did you feel better after you went to the RUDY: I sure did. He wasn't in.

\* \* \* \* \*

☆ TEACHER: Where did you use to get your sugar, from Egypt or Cuba? PUPIL: We always borrowed ours from a Cuban neighbour, sir!



\* TEACHER: "Let's review. What's the difference

PUPIL: "I like my sister but I love my car."

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

\*\*\*

between like and love?

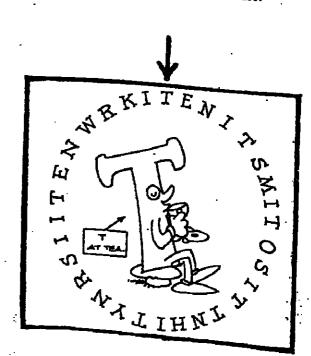


Tick the appropriate box in answer to the statements TRUE FALSE s. He was a tall man. 2. He was a lieutenant at 16. 3. He was a General at 26. 4. He conquered Russia 5. Hediedonthelsleof Elba. 6. He died in France. 7. He died at St. Helena.

TONGUE TEASER

\* \* \* \* \*

Start with the marked T. Moving around the circle three times clockwise, underline every 3rd letter after that T. Keep circling and underlining every 3rd letter until you have made a tongue-twister sentence. This one should tease your tongue for hours.



The weakness of American civilisation, and perhaps the chief reason why it creates so much discontent, is that it is so curiously abstract. It is a bloodless extrapolation of a satisfying life... you dine off the advertiser's "sizzling" and not the meat of the steak - J.B. Priestley, British novelist (1894-1984).

broad enough - Dame Edith Evans, English actress

Quotations (such as have point and lack triteness) from the great old authors are an act of filial reverence on the part of the quoter, and a blessing to a public grown superficial and external - Louise Imogen Guiney, American poet and essayist (1861-

#### Magic Bubble Starring: Diane Salinger & John Calvin The unique story of a woman who starts blowing bubbles. makes wishes and instantly forgets she's 40 or 30 or even 20. She becomes ageless, timeless- and unbelievably happy... but her family and friends go into a shock.

12:00 Shogun

### Friday, July 21

1:00 Read-A-Alle Deed-1:15 Beethoven

1:30 Why I didn't Think Of That

2:00 White Fang

2:30 Back To Bonanza

4:00 The Crystal Maze

4:30 French Programme

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 African Skies 8:00 Coach

8:30 Jordan Today

9:15 Wild Side

10:00 News In English 10:25 Movie — Even Angeles Fall

10:00 News In English

9:15 Strathblair

# Monday, July 24

10:25 Counterstrike

11:30 The Hidden Room

12:00 Grace Under Fire

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Starring: Morgan Fair-child & Englibert Hum-

An actress is found dead

at her home and her

friend never stops sear-

ching for more and more

clues. Will she be able to

identify the real killer?

12:00 The Powers That

Saturday, July

2:00 Back To The Fu

Hendersons

4:00 Families

2:50 Harry And The

3:00 Road To Avonlea

5:00 French Programme

8:30 The Bold And The

9:15 Dr. Quinn-Medicine

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie: Shadow

Starring: Dennis Dogan

The movie is an excit-

ing story of different

people chasing invisible

spirits and flying objects

trying to find an explana-

Sunday, July 23

2:30 The Mighty Jungle

3:00 Pugwali Summer

5:00 French Programme

7:30 News Headlines

Tomorrow's World

8:00 Nurses

Beautiful

7:35 Documentary -

8:30 The Bold And The

3:30 Movie Magic

4:00 Families

2:00 The Flintstones

& Trevor Eve

tion for them.

7:30 News Headlines

7:35 First Flights

8:00 Major Dad

Beautiful

Woman

2:00 Animals Of Farthingwood

2:30 Hey Dad!

3:00 Documentary — Survival

4:00 Families

5:00 French Programme 7:30 News Headlines

7:35 Camp Wilder 8:00 McHale's Navy

8:30 The Bold And The Beautifui

9:15 Harts Of The West

A comedy about a 41year-old big-city lingerie salesman whose recent coronary episode has convinced him that it's time to take a chance on

his lifelong dream. 10:00 News In English

10:25 The Ruth Rendell's Mysteries From Doon From Doon With Death

11:30 Movie — The Old Man And The Sea

Starring: Anthony Quinn

& Gary Cole

Tuesday, July 25

2:00 Captain Planet 2:30 M.A.N.T.I.S

3:00 The Road To Avon-

4:00 Families

11:30 Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less

10:45 Blue Skies

10:25 Prism

Thoughts for this week

Life is long enough, it seems to me, but not quite

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HOLL YWO has thrilled in decades pla thing from swashbuckler

But even 1

sage of 33 ye that first mac

By Marina J Agence Fran MŎSCOW cow Internat Festival, once for Soviet valu Communist P atchiks, is beir year as a win new Russia, s kept to a min

'Russia's maintain its p premier fil country will co comparable to festival," saic Moscow festi tor, Ale Atanessian, a

By John PARIS — The smile of Lec Vinci's Mona I соте тоге ту she gets older to an expert or French art hi ques Franck around the

By Hillel The Associat

mouth in the

NEW YORK could photogra of director Ja you might get like this scen broadwalk at Beach, where hang like fate Water and sad wear hats and Russian. The 26-year

maker has con this ethnic e Brooklyn to p debut featur Odessa. He i near a woode wondering if he the business to he'll even get it's going to be going to hate going to care

going to give j lt's a produc

# Connery's career thrives — always in Bond's shadow

By Matt Spetalnick Reuter

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HOLLYWOOD - He has thrilled audiences for decades playing everything from Kings and swashbucklers to cops and robbers.

But even with the passage of 33 years, the role that first made Sean Connery a screen legend is one

he's never been able to shake. Balding, gray and weathered, he is still for many the once and forever James Bond.

Now, at age 64, the veteran actor who once fought to escape the shadow of Secret Agent 007 is learning to take it all in

"It's really very flattering," he said in a recent



Sean Connery plays King Arthur of Camelot in the film First Knight

interview. "If you do the first of something and if it's successful, it's difficult for somebody to follow."

Indeed Connery was a tough act to follow, and for those who have tried to fill Bond's shoes -Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton and the nextgeneration 007 Pierce Brosnan - he has plenty of sympathy.

Even when they do it well, he said, people often dismiss it as a foolproof role or say "yeah, but he's not as good as Sean Con-

Now Connery is about to hit the big screen as a legend of a different order - King Arthur of Camelot. In the Columbia Pictures release First Knight, he plays the ageing monarch to Julia Ormond's Lady Guinevere and Richard Gere's Lancelot.

As a remake of the Camelot myth, First Knight — which opens across the United States Friday — is sure to offend Arthurian purists. Merlin the magician and Arthur's trusty sword Excalibur are missing. Lancelot is not a selfless nobleman but a rootless rogue who goes wherever his sword leads him - in this case, into the arms of the beautiful Gшіпечеге.

Guessing how his countrymen will react, British actor Ben Cross, who plays the villainous knight Malagant, said: "The usual thing will be 'oh God, Lancelot played by



Sean Connery with Audrey Hepburn in the film Robin And Marian

an American, but wasn't "He's an intimidating pre-Sean wonderful."

But Connery defends the decision to break away

from the commonly told Arthurian tales, saying "it makes the story easier to understand in human

The baritone-voiced Scot was the first choice for the man who would be king, turning down offers to appear in two other summer swashbucklers, Rob Roy and Braveheart. On the set, Connery

clearly struck awe in his fellow cast members.

sence," said director Jerry Zucker. "You see Sean approaching and your lips start to form the words

Though Connery has since won critical acclaim in many demanding roles, it was Bond who made him an international movie icon — a status he sometimes found stifling.

In 1962, he beat out bigger names to play Ian Fleming's dashing secret agent in Dr. No and was soon setting box-office re-

But before the series could become a trap, he dropped out. That kicked off a second career as he branched out into other roles, starring in The Man Who Would Be King (1975), The Wind And The Lion (1975), Robin And Marian (1976) and A Bridge Too Far (1977).

Then in 1983 Connery donned his toupee and returned to play an overthe-hill 007 in Never Say Never Again. Four years later, he won an Oscar for his supporting role as a grizzled Irish cop in The nery says he has stopped



portraying James Bond

Untouchables.

Though he is just shy of the age that qualifies him for a free bus pass in his native Scotland, Connery has never been busier. Premiere magazine recently ranked him the 15th most powerful actor in Hollywood.

Secure in his reputation as an A-list actor, Con-

worrying about being stereotyped in the 007 mould. "If I found a really interesting part that had a parallel to Bond, I would certainly do it," he insisted.

As for talk that he may someday play Bond's father, he said: "Nobody has ever made an overture to me... I would adore to do it.

# Moscow Film Festival attracts Hollywood glitterati

By Marina Lapenkova Agence France Presse MOSCOW — The Moscow International Film Festival, once a showpiece for Soviet values staged by Communist Party apparatchiks, is being billed this year as a window on the new Russia, with politics

kept to a minimum. "Russia's desire to maintain its prestige as a prèmier film-making country will cost it a sum comparable to the Cannes festival," said the 19th Moscow festival's director, Alexander Atanessian, a former colleague of the celebrated Armenian filmmaker Sergei Paradzhanov.

The Russian authorities are spending between \$7 and \$8 million on the festival, opening Monday. Another 17 million will go on refurbishing Russia's cinemas, which are generally in a chronic state of disrepair, Atanessian said.

In a sign of the authorities' commitment to Russia cinema, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin is chairing the organising committee — the first such appointment in the festival's history. He is

flanked by major figures in modern Russian cinema: Nikita Mikhalkov. Andrei Konchalovsky, Sergei Solovyox and fileb

Launched in 1959, the festival was traditionally a showpiece for Soviet leaders to parade their values in the world spotlight. It was characterised by a proliferation of films from developing countries and propaganda events such as mass flag-waving by thousands of young Communists.

In the Soviet era the guests were accommodated in the gloomy labyrinths of the Stalinist Hotel Rossiya.

But this year Moscow will play host to some of the gifterati of world sinema, including Hollywood heart-throb Richard Gere, who is chairing the festival's international jury.

The luxury Metropol and Savoy hotels will also provide sumptuous rooms for star actresses Whoopi Goldberg and Meryl Streep, Italian scriptwriter Tonino Guerro and actors Maximilian Schell, Michele Placido and Klaus Maria Brandauer.

Goldberg plays a non- hotels, but all are invited comic role in the politically-correct Boys On The Side, featuring in the festival.

Brandauer's Mario And The Magician will also be among the 22 films competing for the prestigious and uprecedented \$50,000 Grand Prize, awarded to the director and producer of the best film.

French cult director Agnes Varda will attend a retrospective of her films. Filmmakers from the former Soviet republics will stay at the less chic

Ukraine and Moscow

to join a two-day boarhunt and feast in Nizhny Novgorod on the Volga. Muscovites will have

the chance to rub shoulders with the rich and famous in a big marquee pitched outside the Metropol, next to a granite statue of Karl Marx, for an entry fee of 30,000 rubles "More democracy, less

pomp — everything will be open to the public apart from the judges' room," said Atanessian.

Gere will be flanked on the jury by a dozen other

cluding the Czech director Jiri Menzel and Georgian Otar Iosseliani, and the American cameraman Laszio Kovacs.

The other prizes will also be the highest ever to be awarded at the Moscow festival. The Special Jury Prize,

Best Director, Best Actor and Best Actress will each total \$20,000.

The festival will end on July 28 with a big party on the banks of the Moskva River and a release of balloons bearing the portraits of former cinema

stars of world cinema, in- idols. However, the glitziness

of this year's festival is not to everybody's taste. "It's a disgrace, I don't

want to be there," commented film critic Genrikh Vartanov of Russia's Fine Arts Institute. "Instead of helping

Russian cinema they are putting on this circus." According to Daniil Dandurei, chief editor of Cinema Art, the main Russian cinema magazine. the authorities "want to recreate a big Soviet-style event but with a different

ideological spin.'

# Mona Lisa's smile — do wrinkles fuel the mystery?

#### 

By John Follain

Reuter
PARIS — The enigmatic
smile of Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa has become more mysterious as she gets older, according to an expert on the Italian painter.

French art historian Jacques Franck says cracks around the eyes and mouth in the early 16th century panel had changed the Mona Lisa's expression in the world's most famous painting.

"I don't think Leonardo wanted her to have such a mocking expression. The expression he gave her was a much more serene one," said Franck, a consultant to Paris's Louvre Museum where the Mona

Attempts to solve the Mona Lisa enigma have included various theories, including the one that she had overlapping teeth or another that asserted she was really a very tall man.

One Californian doctor concluded she suffered from Bell's palsy, a form of facial paralysis causing a contraction of muscles Lisa is the star attraction. around the corners of the

Many of the cracks Franck points to are visible only close-up, but Leonardo's work is particularly vulnerable to them because of his subtle pictorial technique in minute tonal shifts, modelling and shading.

The cracks are most striking around the right eye. Tracking the eyelid,

they make the eye appear longer and turn her gaze

into a very slight squint. Cracks under the left eyelid, around the outside of both cheeks, and at one corner of her mouth also help to redraw the model's expression and give her a more pronounced smile.

"The right pupil appears to be more towards the inside of the

eye, giving her a slightly more insistent gaze," said Franck, who has published his findings in the American scientific review

Achademia Leonardi Vin-

The smile has changed. There is more gaiety in her smile than Leonardo originally painted. The cracks have made her slightly less

more interesting," he

Franck said he could not tell whether the cracks were in the preparation of the panel or in the layer of paint.

Could Leonardo, a scientist and inventor as well as an artist whose experi-

beautiful and perhaps have engineered the change in the Mona Lisa's expression as a show of bravura for generations centuries later?

We can't say for sure. We need to know which laver the cracks are in. But Leonardo often retouched work when the paint was not quite dry, ments revolutionised and that could make for painting style, himself cracks," Franck said.

# Young director makes promising first film, and worries

By Hillel Italie The Associated Press

NEW YORK - If you could photograph the soul of director James Gray you might get something like this scene on the broadwalk at Brighton Beach, where dark clouds hang like fate over the water and sad-eyed men wear hats and speak in

The 26-year-old filmmaker has come out to this ethnic enclave of Brooklyn to promote his debut feature, Little Odessa. He is standing near a wooden railing, wondering if he broke into the business too soon, if he'll even get to make another movie.

"You never know when it's going to be your last film. Maybe people are going to hate it, no one's going to give you money any more," he says. It's a product of West-

em culture that you are taught to believe you'll get

better, that technology will lead us to a better future. The truth is, with movies, with art, the creative force's progress is not inevitable. You could get worse as a filmmaker. Who knows when you So far, Gray seems des-

tined to stick around. He completed Little Odessa with a minumum of in-. terference, and worked with a cast that included Academy Award winners Vanessa Redgrave and Maximilian Schell, along with Tim Roth, Edward Furlong and Moira Kelly.

Reviews have been strong, with the New York Times saying Little Odessa suggests the start of a "powerful career." While that film was released by Fine Line Features, Gray has an upcoming, twopicture deal with 20th

Century Fox. "If they read my next script and they think it's junk, forget it," he counters. "Look, you can have someone write you a contract, which is like you have final cut and total control, and this, that, or the other thing. But if they want to, they can always screw you."

Such angst you could say this intense, articulate man is simply honouring the tradition of his Russian Jewish ancestors, but vou also could credit him for seeing caution as the best way to sustain his lucky streak.

The son of college professors, Gray didn't grow up in Brighton Beach, but nearby in Queens. He remembers being a serious kid ("especially when the Yankees lost") who upon seeing Apocalypse Now decided movies were no longer "nifty," but "awesome."

He was so hooked on cinema that he would skip classes to go to the theatre, and he made the sensible choice to attend film school, at the University of Southern Cali-

"After he graduated from USC, we saw a short film which he directed, which was really, really good," said Gray's agent, John Lesher. "We all thought he would be someone exciting to repre-

"He likes to play computer games, but there is something not entirely of this era about him, in a good way. He seemed like a renaissance man trapped in a 22-year-old body. He can paint, he knows about philosophy and art. He's a very intelligent guy."

Gray does finds himself

longing for the past, for

the 1960s and '70s. In

those days, he believes,

you didn't have to apologise for being a liberal and you didn't have to sell out completely to get Hollywood to make one of your movies. The director is from the

school, let's call it the old school, that believes a badly made feature with a happy ending is far more depressing than a good film that tells a tragic Little Odessa, he hopes,

belongs in the latter category: You certainly couldn't mistake it for Forrest Gump. Reflecting Gray's love for Mean Streets, Rocco And His Brothers and other films from the '60s and '70s Little Odessa tells a grim story about violence and family tension among immigrants in Brighton Beach.

It's fun to hear the director tell how he got all those actors for Little Odessa, especially since

he mimics their voices so perfectly. Roth was the first to

join (they once had the same agent), and the others soon followed. Gray's best story concerns Schell, whose droning Viennese accent provides an almost macabre atmos-

"We decided to send him the script and he called up the casting director and said, 'the script is very interesting. I vant to meet with the director.' So, I flew out to Los Angeles for the day, and went to Max's house, where he greeted me in his bathrobe and a scarf," Gray recal-

"I went into his office, which had like hundreds of cassette tapes all around. ... I went over every page of the screenplay. It took seven hours. He just wanted to make

through entirely. And after seven hours, he still hadn't committed.

"I went back to New York with no answer. He called me up a week later, at about 3 in the morning, and said, 'James Earl Gray?' - That's what he called me, James Earl Gray — 'I vill not abandon you."

Little Odessa stars Roth as a hitman who returns secretly, on business, to his native Brighton Beach. But he ends up encountering his father (Schell), an unassimilated Russian Jew who calls him a "murderer"; his adoring younger brother (Furlong) and his dying mother (Redgrave).

Gray's older brother is not a mobster, but the director did use a lot of details from his personal life. He says Schell's character is almost a direct copy of his own grandsure I had thought his part father and Redgrave's role

is very much based on his mother, who died of cancer six years ago.

"Some things were personal, some things I read in the New York Times. It was a weird sort of amalgamation," he said.

"This may sound incredibly pretentious, but I wanted to make something that was the modern equivalent to those elegiac Greek tragedies... That was a result of the stuff I liked to see as a kid, which were European movies and American films from the early '70s.

"I wanted to make a movie that was the opposite of every cheesy crime movie and hipsterism. It's so offensive to watch a movie where people are getting killed and it's about the seedy underbelly, but it's made by somebody who has no clue about that, and it's all superfi-



By Paul Raeburn The Associated Press JANET didn't need a doc-

wrong. For more than a decade, she had watched as breast cancer stalked her family. Her mother was diagnosed in 1978, at the age of 47. Her aunt was struck a year later. The aunt's 29-year-old daughter was next, then another

Janet's sisters. The two cousins and the sister died, and in 1992, the shadow fell on Janet. She, too, had breast cancer. She was 40 years old. By then, Janet's sister Susan — four years youn-

daughter, then one of

ger and free of any sign of disease -- could not stand waiting for what she not. viewed as the inevitable. She decided to do the only thing she could to avoid the tragedy that had befallen her mother, aunt, cousins and sisters: She scheduled surgery to have both her healthy breasts

Janet and Susan - who used assumed names to protect their privacy told their story last fall to several hundred geneticists and researchers gathered in Montreal for the annual meeting of the American Society of Human Genetics.

As Janet began, the audience fell silent. The sorrow in her voice filled the tor to tell her something was cavernous hall, where doctors and researchers were beginning to grapple with a problem unlike any they had faced before.

> Last year, the mystery behind the shadow that fell on the women of Janet's family was solved. Researchers identified the gene causing the breast cancer in families like

But the discovery did little to lift the shadow. Instead, it brought with it a fearsome power. For the first time, doctors could predict, decades in advance, which members of those families would get cancer and which would

Within weeks of the discovery. Susan became one of the first women to undergo testing. Only days before the scheduled surgery to remove her breasts, doctors notified her of the results: She did not carry the breast cancer mutation.

That meant her risk of developing breast cancer was normal - not astronomical, as it would be if she carried the gene. She cancelled the surgery.

"I couldn't believe it," Susan said. "It was the first reason we had for

For many others, however, including other women in Janet's and Susan's family, doctors have only bad news. Many of those women are carrying "genetic markers" indicating they have the mutation. And doctors can do nothing to help

Some day, it may be possible to pluck out harmful genetic mutations. to "cure" bad genes. In the meantime, doctors who have identified patients at risk can only watch helplessly as their fates unfold.

"There's that quote from Sophocles — 'it is but sorrow to be wise. when wisdom profits nothing'," said Dr. Francis Collins, the director of genetics research at the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Collins directs the National Centre for Human Genome Research, an ambitious effort to identify all the estimated 100,000 genes in humans - including an unknown

number of cancer genes. Last year, researchers discovered genes that make it possible to identity the individuals at risk in families ravaged by colon cancer. More such genes are sure to follow, Dr. Collins said.

"These genes for cancer are getting cloned willynilly. Testing would have potential benefits if we knew what to recommend. But we don't.'

A few years ago, doctors found the gene for Huntington's disease, a crippling and ultimately fatal nerve disorder that killed folk singer Woody Guthrie. They are close to finding a genetic indicator of Alzheimer's disease.

Dr. Collins is among many geneticists who see a crisis building. Pressure to make testing available is coming not only from patients like Janet and Susan, but also from biotechnology companies, which stand to make a fortune selling test kits.

This new ability to predict cancer raises a host of vexing scientific and ethical questions. How should the tests be interpreted outside the research lab? Should testing be offered to anyone? What kind of psychological support

should be provided? Cancer testing also is likely to have a disastrous impact on patients' health insurance. Insurance companies may drop coverage for people carrying cancer genes. And as the ability to test for such genes grows, the pool of people

excluded from coverage could grow.

"We are all carrying around pre-existing conditions, and we're learning more about how to find them," Dr. Collins said. "Pretty soon, we're all going to be uninsurable."

A further problem is that the government hasn't decided what it should do to assure the accuracy of the new gene tests and ensure they aren't misused.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has the authority to regulate genetic tests, but has not exercised it so far. Companies promoting the tests have not been submitting them to the FDA for approval, the National Academy of Sciences

warned in a 1993 report. The emotional consequences of testing can be so overwhelming that the tests must be nearly 100 per cent accurate, the academy said. At present, they aren't.

Mary-Claire King, a geneticist at the University of California in Berkeley, did the groundbreaking work leading to the discovery of the breast cancer gene. Breast cancer runs in Ms. King's family, as it does it Janet's and Susan's.

Few people understand

the significance of the test and its implications better than Ms. King. And she has decided not to take it.

"I have not screened myself. I have notscreened my daughter," she said. "It is premature now. The information is of по use. '

The genetic link to breast cancer in her family is weaker than in Janet's and Susan's family. In Ms. King's family, the tests might not provide conclusive information on risks.

Many other families are in simílar circumstances. Few families are hit as hard as Janet's and Susan's, so Ms. King pleaded with women in those families to wait before seeking testing. "Give us time to sort out the biology," she said.

When the biology is sorted out over the next few years, testing may become routine. But that in turn will create another problem. Genetic testing does not produce yes or no answers. The results are expressed in terms of probabilities.

In Janet's and Susan's family, the probability for any individual woman is either very high or very low, making the results relatively simple to understand. But what happens

when a woman has a slightly elevated probability of getting breast cancer, or double the usual risk? What if a young man is told he is at high risk of getting Alzheimer's disease in his 60s?

There will be an urgent need for genetic counsellors, professionals who can interpret test results and provide guidance. Dr. Collins imagined what might happen in the absence of such counselling: "A patient comes in and

says 'I lost my keys last week, and I can't remember this person's name. Am I getting Alzheim-

"And the physician says, 'let's do this test.' And he says, 'yeah, you've got it. We better test your kids.' 'And some of them

have it... "And one of them goes out and blows his brains

Add up the number of Americans at risk of breast cancer, colon cancer and Alzheimer's disease, and the numbers reach the tens of millions. But there are now only 1,200 genetic counsellors in the United States, and Dr. Collins said the few training programmes are short of funds and unable to expand.

doctors and nurses to fill the gap, even though many of them may have

little genetic training. "We have to move very swiftly if we're going to prepare physicians and nurses for this," Dr. Col-

lins said. Even the limited use of the tests thus far has revealed surprises in the way patients react. When Susan learned she was free of the genetic marker for breast cancer, her worries should have been over. Yet the good news proved to be almost as difficult to handle as bad news would

have been. First, she felt anger — "for the hell my sisters had been through." Then a pervasive guilt seeped in, and remains.

"I keep thinking, 'why did they inherit it and I didn't? They're good people.' I'm the only one out of five children that didn't inherit the marker. The next day I remember not being able to get out of

Janet concluded her remarks to the geneticists with a word of thanks and a hope.

"We as a family feel tremendously grateful that something has been happening for us," she said. "I wish you all a lot of That inevitably leaves luck in figuring this out."

# Study disputes link between breast cancer and Estrogen

By Lindsey Tanner The Associated Press CHICAGO - What's a menopausal woman to believe? Less than a month after researchers reported that taking Estrogen may increase the risk of breast cancer, a new study indicates there's no such dan-

The lead authors of both studies say more research is needed though both stand by their

"I know there's a lot of

confusion," said Universi- ate the hot flashes and ty of Washington epidemiologist Janet Stanford, lead author of the

Dr. Štanford said women should discuss their medical history with their doctors before deciding whether to use hormones during menopause. "It has to be an indi-

vidual decision," she said. Hormone replacement therapy, using Estrogen alone or with Progestin, is often prescribed to allevi-

other symptoms of menopause as well as to reduce the risk of heart disease and brittle bones.

Hormone supplements can cut in half the risk of heart disease, the leading cause of death for women as well as men. They have a similar effect on frac-

> Doctors have long suspected that Estrogen, a female sex hormone, may play a role in the development of breast cancer.

Women with longtime exposure to increased Estrogen levels - those who begin menstruating early or go through menopause late — face a higher breast cancer risk.

But doctors have debated for decades whether there is a similar link involving hormones given to women when their natural Estrogen production slows down. Stanford's study, pub-

lished in the Journal of the American Medical Asso-

ciation, found that menopausal women who take Estrogen alone or with Progestin face no increased risk of breast can-

The results are based on medical histories of 1.029 Seattle-area women ages 50 to 64. About half had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

"We found no overall association between breast cancer risk and the use of either Estrogen alone or Estrogen with Progestin," the researchers wrote.

therapy for eight years or more "was associated with, if anything, a reduction in the risk of breast cancer," and Estrogen alone used for 20 years or more showed no increased risk, they said.

But because the combineds therapy has been popular in this country for only about a decade, more research is needed to determine whether longerterm use poses any breast cancer risk. Dr. Stanford

A study published on

land Journal of Medicine longer-term users and oldfound that women on hormones for more than five years had a 46 per cent higher risk of breast cancer than those who never used such supplements. The risk dropped to normal within two years of stopping hormone ther-

The lead author of that study, Dr. Graham Colditz of Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital. said Dr. Stanford's research was flawed because it was limited to women under 65.

University of Toronto

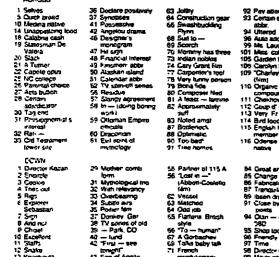
er ages we saw stronger increases in risk," Dr. Coldtiz said.

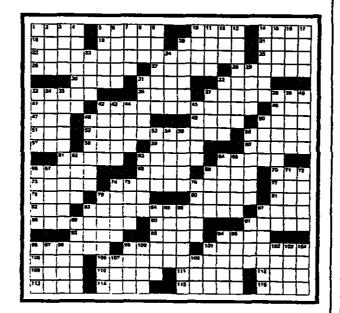
Dr. Melody Cobleigh, director of the Comprehensive Breast Centre at Chicago's Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Centres said earlier research tends to support Dr. Stanford's find-

"The preponderance of the evidence is that there is not an association" between breast cancer and hormone supplements.

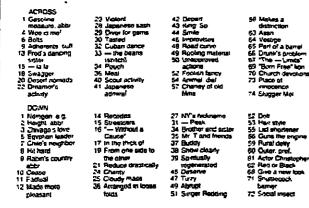
### WEEKEND CROSSWORD

THE GANG'S ALL HERE By Grace Pinkston
ACBOSE

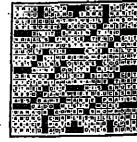


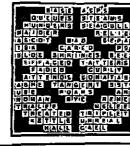


Diagramless, 19 x 19



SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE





Last Week's Cryptograms

Pretty tough young cowboy became the new champion rodeo rider.
 Whistler's mother had a teakettle in her kitchen that hissed when hot. She called it "mother's whistler."

3. Are you amused to discover that many popular entertainers today have more chutspah than talent?
4. Cold birdwatcher in tiny blind sees hungry swallow swallow big bug.

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### discovers Alzheimer's gene By Sarah Davison Reuter

TORONTO - A team of researchers from the University of Toronto said it has discovered the gene responsible for the most severe form of the mindcrippling Alzheimer's dis-

The university's Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases said it has identified and cloned the mutations of the gene that causes early onset Alzheimer's disease, a rare but extremely aggressive form of pre-senile dementia that afflicts people aged 30 to

and important piece of the puzzle of Alzheimer's disease," Dr. Peter St. George-Hyslop, the centre's director, said in a press release. The findings were published in the June 29 edition of the Journal

Environmental factors and genetic predisposition are considered the causes of most forms of the disease, which typically strikes after the age of 65, Dr. St. George-Hyslop

At least three and probably four or five genes are involved in inherited susceptibility to the disease, he said. But genetic pre-

### Researchers announce new malaria treatment

LONDON (AFP) — Brit-ish and American researchers have identified a family of genes in malaria parasites that could save the lives of two million children who die of malaria in Africa each year.
"Armed with this new

information it will now be possible to investigate new methods of treatment by interfering with the para-site's ability to stick to blood vessels," said Chris Newbold, the physician heading a team of researchers at Oxford Universi-

"Vaccination is another possibility, which would stimulate the immune system to protect the person against the divergent action of the genes," he said in the current issue of the science journal, Cell.

Robert Howells, prog-ramme director of the Wellcome Trust, the drug company funding the re-search, called it "a major step forward in our understanding of one of the major diseases of man-

There are four types of malaria, but only one is fatal, he said. In this condition, blood cells infected by the malaria parasite stick to the inside of the small blood vessels of organs in the body --- particularly the brain, resulting in coma, and in many cases, death.

Normally when an infection occurs, the body's immune system produces antibodies which recognise infected cells and des-

"We have found a new disposition is considered worked to identify the identify the disposition is considered worked to identify the important piece of the the only cause of early actual Alzheimer's disease onset Alzheimer's, suggesting the University of Toronto discovery is particularly significant.

"We have found a gene that, when it carries genetic mutations, is the sole cause of one type of Alzheimer's disease, and because it is such an aggressive form of Alzheimer's disease it is very likely a fundamental and importnat step in the biochemical process that causes all types of the disease," Dr. St. George-Hyslop said.

Several years ago, the University of Toronto team began looking at families where Alzheimer's was clearly inherited as a genetic trait. Three years ago, they mapped the gene to a region on Chromosome 14 and then gene and to find the mutations in the gene that cause the disease.

After examining known genes on Chromosome 14 without finding mutations, they started to look for a new gene. Using a specialised cloning technique, they isolated and investigated these new genes for mutations specific for peo-ple with Alzheimer's dis-

After looking at 19 new genes, they found one bearing mutations that are found only in people who have Alzheimer's disease.

Hopefully with more work we will understand the biochemical pro-cesses of Alzheimer's dis-ease," Dr. St. George-Hyslop said. But he cautioned that no cure is around the corner.

### **ANSWERS** TEST YOUR MEMORY

1. Finnish. 2. 20th cent. artist.

3. In front of the Olympic stadium in Helsinki,

4. Paavo Nurmi (1897-1973). Finnish athlete. Won 6 Olympic titles (1920-1932) in 1.500 metre to 10,000 m. races, and set 20 world records. \* \* \* \* \*

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

Napoleon Bonaparte 5. F 6. F 3. T 7. T **4444** 

TONGUE TEASER

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Ten years

after the Live

**Aid concerts** rocked to the

slogan Feed

the World,

have run as

Ethiopia as

Chaudhary sees Tigray's

progress in

feeding and

watering the

region of the

great famine.

MIDNIGHT AT the Debre Dhamo hotel in Makele,

Tigray province, northern Ethiopia, and the music from a four-piece band keeps most of the guests

awake. In the reception

area, temporarily converted

into a dance floor, young

men guzzle bottles of Bede-

le beer as they dance to

traditional Tigrayan songs

commemorating the end of the war, those who died in

By dawn few revellers

have time to nurse hangov-

ers as they join the long

processions winding along

wards a hill overlooking the

town. As the sun emerges

through the mist, more than

50,000 people have

gathered under a giant

monument, completed the

Fifty-one metres high,

the monument's four

curved pillars support a gol-

den globe. On one side of

the monument, statues de-

pict soldiers in the war

against the former Ethio-

pian regime, which ended in 1991. On the other, there

are sculpted figures of

emaciated people carrying

their children and belong-

ings. At the back is a fallen

cluster bomb, like those

dropped on Tigray during

the war against the former

Soviet-backed regime of

Colonel Mengistu Haile

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Uzheimer s dir oking at 19 new ey found on stations that at: in people who eimer's disease opefully with k we will under niochemical pro Alzheimer's die r. St. George said. But h that no cure a e corner.

)RY m in Helsinki

athlete Wolff metre to 10.00

ork.

"I do not want to be accused of being a puppet DGE and stooge once again. I prefer to be paid by my province where my subjects reside, not by someone in Cape Town or Pretoria," he

said in an interview. issues like what their role

Western-style democracy. For many years, kings, chiefs and headmen were paid by the apartheid government, which hoped to buy their political allegiance and their backing for ethnically based home-

3,600 traditional leaders in six of its nine provinces, including Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, 11 para-mount chiefs, 780 lesser chiefs and 2,800 headmen. Altogether they receive pay of about 75 million rand (\$20.5 million) a year from

Now a controversial bill sponsored by Mr. Mandela would have the central government pay them salaries equivalent to those of mem-

"We should put them in the same position as other members of parliament who have uniform salaries who are provided with official residences, who have official transport, who have secretaries, who have driv-

"If Amakhosi (chiefs) are going to be respected, they must be placed in this position instead of living in houses which leave much to

Traditional leaders are divided largely along poli-tical lines on whether they should be paid by the central or the provincial government. majority of tribal chiefs, most of whom support the

"After having been wish to believe that the first black president of South

memorandum to Mr. Manhave called the plan to pay traditional leaders from central government coffers a threat to peace and reconciliation, saying it is an attempt to win the political favour of Kwazulu-Natal's

chaired by Mr. Buthelezi.

The land that doesn't want to feed its people The people of Makele had gathered for Martyrs' were walking for more than two months in search of day, which this year cointhat precious resource. I was taken to meet them last cided with the inauguration of the memorial, built with month by Heshe, who local donations, to rememworks for the Relief Society ber those who died in the of Tigray (REST), Africa's largest indigenous nonwar and famine of 1984-85. government organisation Ten years ago there was a (NGO), and was escorting camp where the memorial me around Tigray. now stands. More than 35,000 people walked from Along with hundreds of all around Tigray in search others, the couple are of food and water as famine

building an earth dam as part of the REST development, programme. Eating ingira, a thin pancake-like bread which is their staple diet, they squat on the parched earth telling of the famine as dust blows: "Ou children died and so did all our animals - ox, three sheep and two cows. We walked for two months and finally got into Sudan where we were housed and fed in camps," said Gimichael. "I can still feel the pains of hunger and hear my children crying as their bellies swelled up. There was no-

When the couple returned to Tigray, they were helped by funds raised by Live Aid and other NGOs. given two oxen, tools, seed and, initially, monthly food rations. Yet a decade after Feed the World, Gimichael and Mislal still cannot manage to feed themselves. Said Gimichael: "The food

that we grow is only enough

thing I could do."

for about nine months; for the rest of our needs we have to work or get food relief. The land is very dry - it does not want to feed its people, I think." The rains are two weeks late and the river beds and wells are as dry as the Live Aid funds, which ran out two

years ago. The famrers whip their oxen to plough the land, stumbling over large lumps of dry earth and rocks. Women squat around wells: their earthen pots at their sides, waiting for the water to arrive. It could take up to if it has been sucked dry.

Most of Live Aid's money went for temporary relief, not long-term development. Aid workers stress that while Live Aid led to a massive increase in donations from individuals and charities and helped publicise a disaster they had struggled to bring to the world's attention, the need to set up long-term development programmes was

largely overlooked. 'I got to know Geldof quite well." said Brother Augustin O'Keeffe, who has worked in Ethiopia for over 20 years. "I would have liked to see him continue his work in development. All his work was focused on short-term relief and people didn't really understand what was needed to alleviate the problems."
Live Aid tasted sour to

some in Ethiopia. The former regime of Colonel Mengistu was toppled in 1991 with the dictator fleeing into exile. A transitional government is headed by Meles Zenawi. the former leader of the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front. Ethiopians are now freer to appraise Live Aid and the famine, which many feel was a political crisis rather than the product of drought.

"What did Live Aid achieve?" asks Heshe. "It saved lives. It was a temporary response to a disastrons situation. But it didn't tell you why there was famine. Drought exists all the time in Ethiopia, but famine is created for other reasons.

Few of the crowd of 72,000 at Wembley were aware that a civil war was raging at the time between government forces and rebel groups led by the TPLF. Most aid was used to help people in government-held areas, while the centre of the famine was in rebelheld areas like Tigray and Eritrea. The regime used the bait of aid to lure people out of rebel-held areas, hoping to undermine support and morale for rebel groups. It then rounded up

thousands of civilians and relocated them. Garrison towns remained well-fed while ordinary Ethiopians starved. Soviet-built MIGs bombed farmers, making ploughing impossible and

exacerbating the drought.
Live Aid barely publicised this. Neither did the NGOs, apart from Médecins Sans Frontières, the French medical charity, which was expelled soon afterwards. The thrust of the appeals was that drought was to blame for the famine. Live Aid's director, Kevin Jenden, campaign: "What we've done is make starvation

sexy. Fiona Meehan, who has been working for REST for five years, is scathing about what she calls the "disinformation campaign... Charities and Live Aid argued that if they had gone into the politics then people would not have donated. But Geldof had the ear of a massive young radical audience and I'm sure they would have been able to understand the politics of

Ethiopia and still donate." The country still relies heavily on aid. Around 1 million tonnes of food are required this year, and last year 1.2 million people needed relief assistance in Tigray. The emphasis now,

however, is on development not dependency. Aiready, splashes of green can be seen in Tigray and other northern areas as REST attempts to resurrect the land. More than 40,000 hectares have been closed off, to allow time to regenerate. Trees are being planted and almost all the areas still farmed have been

The government also plans a permanent grain stock, to counter future acute food sbortage REST has also set up 105 mills, and 600 water propumps have been completed, a small inroad into a massive problem — 80 per

cent of Tigray's population

of 5 million lives off the

terraced to prevent erosion.

Earth dams are being built and REST has set up 25 centres to distribute aid. It is also attempting to wean people off aid hand-outs by introducing a food for work scheme. Couples like Gimichael and Mislal are paid three kilos of grain per day for their work at the dam. The aim is that 80 per cent of all food aid will be used as payment for those taking part in development projects; the rest will be distributed to those who are

not fit to work. Berhane Gebre Egziabhere, the director of

REST, says: "Donations are on the decline. Unless there is a major disaster here no one seems that interested. It is a critical period because either we continue depending on external relief support or we have to help ourselves." .. A decade after Live Aid,

Ethiopia's reconstruction is as slow as the daily wait for water that Brahan Grmay has to endure every day. She squats beside a well under the shade of an acacia tree near the village of Halla, three hours from Makele. Plastic containers well, which is covered in mud. Brahan went to a camp during the great famine but even today she barely has enough food to eat, walking to a REST, distribution centre every! month for food aid. It would cost £3,500 to set up a hand pump which would:

"Have you ever heard of Live Aid?" I ask her. "No," she replies, "but I know that white people came to help us during the. great famine.

guarantee water.

"So what are your ambitions for the next 10 years?" "I want ciean drinking water near my village and want the harvest to be good so that we can eat well."

The Guardian

Mubarak warns

# South African chiefs to choose paymaster

pread through northern

Éthiopia, killing perhaps

one million people.

The world's conscience

was kicked into action as it

of emaciated humans

grovelling in the dirt, look-

ing for nourishment. It was

declared a famine of "bib-

lical proportions." As the

pictures were beamed worl-

dwide, Bob Geldof decided

to turn from pop star to

philanthropist. Band Aid

was formed and a single was

released in December 1984

to raise funds; then, 10

years ago next week, there

was Live Aid, a concert at

Wembley and Philadelphia

watched by an estimated

1.5 billion people in 160

countries. An estimated £70

million was raised, the mes-

sage was simple - donate

As water was doused on

the Wembley revellers to

keep them cool, Gimichael

Kidane and his wife Mislal

and Feed the World.

By Rich Mkhondo Reuter

GROBLERSDAL, South Africa — For decades Chief Mankorgane Chiloane was on the payroll of South Africa's apartheid government, drawing accusations that he was a stooge and puppet of white masters.

He was relieved after last year's democratic elections when a provincial government, legitimate in the eyes of all, took over the payments.

But now President Nelson Mandela has called for the system to be changed so that traditional leaders like Chief Chiloane are paid by the central government instead of the provinces.

"I am confused," said Mr. Chiloane, recognised as chief by 60,000 people in northern province - one of four new regions into which the old province of Transvaal has been split.

The remuneration of traditional leaders has become a sensitive topic along with

South Africa has about the state.

bers of parliament.

ers," the president said. be desired."

In Kwazulu-Natal, the Inkatha Freedom Party of

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Mr. Mandela's longtime rival, want to be paid by the provincial govoppressed for so long by the domination of white governments, Amakhosi do not

Africa shall force upon

them something that they

firmly oppose and reject.

the 250 chiefs said in a

Mr. Buthelezi and others

"He who pays the piper calls the tune," said Nyanga Ngubane, leader of the Kwazulu-Natal house of traditional leaders, a body

#### Businessmen agree on joint projects

(Continued from page 1) advantage in technology and marketing strategies.

Mr. Zabian stressed that

he did not have the slightest fear that Palestinian-Israeli businessmen would become a bridge for Israeli goods to flood the Jordanian market, without a reciprocal flow of Jordanian goods to Israel. He said that most of the businessmen who had come from Israel were importers, and that there were immediate plans to import Jordanian sweets, other foodstuffs and detergents to Israel, all of which were much cheaper in

Mr. Zabian predicted that the products which would find the easiest entry into the Israeli market would be labour-intensive products, which have a distinct price advantage over similar goods produced in Israel as a result of lower labour costs in Jor-

#### Serbs step up attacks on Bosnia

(Continued from page 1)

Zepa itself appeared poised to fall to the advancing Bosnian Serbs.

Gen. Janvier's comments drew withering criticism from Bosnia's minister for relations with the United Nations, who said: "That is the only order from Janvier in the last two months that I know.

Referring to a U.N. pullout from Zepa, he said: "This is something that is impossible and (Janvier) knows it."

(Continued from page 1)

the government headquar-

ters, which was protected by

armoured vehicles and

Prevented from staging the

scheduled march, Mr. Abu

Rizk went ahead with a brief

rally in front of some 100

people and surrounded by

dozens of soldiers.

But U.N. speical envoy to the former Yugoslavia Yashi Akashi, speaking in Brussels after briefing NATO ambassadors, said the United Nations had no option but to abandon the enclaves. "It is in no position to physically prevent the fall of these areas or othe ...

Despite Mr. Akashi's admission of impotence, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali insisted Wednesday the peacekeepers' had to stay in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Shops across Lebanon kept

their shutters down in soli-

darity with the strike and

staff at the national carrier

Middle East Airlines held a

Late Wednesday Interior

Minister Michel Murr thank-

ed "the security forces which

succeeded in imposing order

with the backing of fraternal

token one-hour stoppage.

Lebanese troops crackdown on protesters

Speaking to reporters after meeting with other senior U.N. officials for crisis talks, Dr. Ghali expressed hope that Friday's meeting in London would provide "new momentum" for a negotiated settlement to the more than three-vear-old war.

Meanwhile, Serb forces from Croatia and rebel Muslim forces loyal to renegade Bosnian leader Fikret Abdic launched a fierce coordinated offensive on government positions in the Bihac enclave, U.N. officials said Wednesday.

One political analyst said

when Mr. Hariri was elected

in 1992 "he was welcomed as

the saviour the only one cap-

able of steering the recon-

struction of the country de-

has been severely criticised

and he is obliged to resort to

Today his management

vastated by the war.

the stick.'

Syrian services."

Strip are Palestinian territory, or ... the settlers have to become Palestinian citizens," Gen. Yousef said.

nian citizens, I don't think there is going to be any problem whatsoever.

"There are going to be like other Palestinian citizens, without ar " distinction or any

#### privilege," he told journal-

(Continued from page 1)

then Mr. Peres before the three leaders came together with advisers. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa was also present.

The deal under negotiation will likely entail a withdrawal of Israeli troops from several Palestinian towns in the West Bank followed by Palestinian elections. Israel's army would remain in charge of security in the rural areas and Jewish settlements but gradually hand over more land over a

two-year period. The deal would constitute the second stage of the Palestinian autonomy outlined in the September 1993 Israel-PLO accord. Gaza and Jericho achieved self-rule in May 1994 in the first stage.

Meanwhile, the PLO police Chief Brigadier General Nasr Yousef has offered Israeli settlers who want to stay in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"There are two solutions, either the evacuation of the settlers in line with the peace agreement that says that the West Bank and the Gaza

"If they want to be Palesti-

However, there were likely to be few takers among the 5,000 Israelis living under army protection on the Gaza

Strip and the 130,000 on the West Bank. Aharon Domb, spokesman for the settlers' council, said: "I have a third solution: All the terrorists should clear out. Dr Nasr Yousef can be-

come an Israeli."

The police chief admitted his men had committed some human rights violations since taking control of the autonomous areas of Gaza and the West Bank enclave of Jericho in May 1994.

He acknowledged that police had early in July forcibly shaved off the beards of three jailed leaders of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas...

"These violations are no more than individual ones. .This has nothing to do with! institutional violations," Gen. Yousef said. "We do not approve of such bad behaviour or abuses."

But he refused to say if the guilty officers had been

Gen. Yousef said his forces? had controlled armed fundamentalists on the Strip and confiscated about 100 weapons since a ban was declared on carrying guns in

As many as 600 gun licences had been issued, he added.

### Arabs regain oil-market share

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab states are gradually regaining their share of the oil market as their main producers expand capacity and other countries rely more on crude imports, official figures showed Wednesday.

The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), which comprises most oil states in the region, produced 29.7 per cent of the total global crude supplies in 1970 and the level steadily increased to peak at 33.7 per cent in 1979, the Kuwaiti-based OAPEC said

in its monthly builetin. Production then began to go down mainly because of a decline in Saudi Arabia's output capacity due to lack of maintenance in its energy

The Arab World production ratio dipped to 32.3 per cent in 1980 and continued to recede to reach a record low of 19.4 per cent in 1985. But it rebounded in the

following years to reach 25.8 per cent in 1990 and 27.7 per cent in 1994, according to the 10-nation OAPEC.

The increase occurred despite a freeze of Iraq's crude supplies due to crippling United Nations embargo imposed after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

But experts said this was offset by a sharp rise in Saudi production and rehabilitation of Kuwait's oilfields that were damaged during the in-

OAPEC groups Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter, with Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Libya, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The report did not cover Oman and Yemen, which have a combined oil production of around 1.2 million barrels per day (bpd).

World supplies of crude oil and condensates were esti-mated at nearly 68.2 million bpd in 1994.

Saudi Arabia alone supplied nearly eight million bpd while the two other Gulf oil giants, Kuwait and the UAE, exported around 4.2 million

The three Gulf states have a proudction capacity of more than 14.5 million bpd and they have plans to raise it to above 16.5 million bpd in the year 2005, according to OAPEC and official figures in those countries.

The three Gulf nations along with the other OAPEC members control more than 60 per cent of the world's total crude reserves. At present production levels, the reserves could last around 100 years.

Experts said they expected the Arab oil market share to stabilise in the next few years before it begins to grow after the year 2000.

They noted most of the increase in world crude demand would be met from outside the region, mainly from the North Sea producers Britain and Norway. Both have already provided the bulk of the one million bpd increase in 1994.

### Abu Dhabi gas makes inroads in Europe

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Abu Dhabi is making inroads with gas exports to Europe because of the economic slowdown in Distrings and Gazde France. Japan, its main customer, the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Co. (ADGAS) has reported.

All ADGAS shipments of liquefied natural gas (LNG) has been going to the Tokyo Electric Power Co., TEPCO. under a 25-year agreement that took effect in April 1994. The contract includes a

build-up period, which allows a progressive increase from 2.4 million tonnes a year delivered in 1993 to 4.9 million a

Given Japan's growing demand for energy, it is likely that TEPCO will want even more LNG than it has contracted for.

But for the moment, year. ADGAS has enough LNG to according to the latest most advanced production ADGAS newsletter. trains in the world.

It said that ADGAS in the first quarter of 1995 sent three cargoes totalling 180,000 tonnes to Belgium's

It has contracted to supply another five cargos totalling 717,000 tonnes to the Belgian and French companies and a further nine cargos totalling 280,000 tonnes to ENGAS of Spain between June 1995 and March 1996, the newsletter

reported.
The European market has opened up because Algerian gas companies, the main LNG suppliers to Europe, faced extended periods of shutdown for refurbishment, the newsletter said.

ADGAS last year commis-

sioned a third production line

that increased its production

capacity to 5 million tonnes a Built by Chiyoda of Japan, supply the European market, the new facility is one of the

THE BETTER HALF.

JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumples

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Print answer here:

one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GIASBERGEN

# **Egypt to cut Suez Canal fees**

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — 35 per cent discount in un-Egypt will cut fees levied on loading fees for ships disvessels passing through the Suez Canal to or from the Jordanian port of Aqaba in a bid to compete with traffic to Israeli ports.

The Suez Canal, which links the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea, is the quickest route from Europe to Asia. But Egypt has worried that overland routes from Israel's Mediterranean ports to Aqaba on the Red Sea could compete with Suez traf-

Revenue from the Suez Canal, as well as tourism and workers' remittances, make up Egypt's main sources of foreign exchange.

Egyptian newspapers Tuesday quoted Mohammad Ezat Adel, head of the Suez Canal Authority, as saying Egypt will offer a 25 per cent discount to all container ships using the canal to or from

An agreement signed Mon-day with the Jordanian Port Authority also provides for a

CLICK CLICK

CLICK

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

WHERE MONEY

GOES WHEN THE PLUMBER COMES.

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as suc-

gested by the above cartoon.

Jumbles: PAGAN LEGAL RENDER MEADOW What the cowboys called their cook -

THE LONE RANGE-R

THE Y X X

by Henri Arnold and Mike Arginon

CLICK

CLICK

111

"I avoid exercise because I'm afraid I'll

get too strong and accidentally crush

the remote control.'

By Glasbergen

reductions in tolls on gas tankers and other vessels passing through the canal from embarking at Aqaba, Mr. the Gulf. Egypt does not disclose the actual canal fees.

Adel said. Egypt has offered similar

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A partner can give you assistance you need this morning, but later personal matters may not go very well for you. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Letters this morning can help you to

get shead faster, but steer clear of asking for favours of usually generous allies. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) This morning is fine for asking a

favour from an admirer but later pals may be too busy and cando nothing for you. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A good friend will do something nice for you this morning, but later today worldly affairs

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) An out-of-town call from a palgains you the information you require today, but steer clear of a friend who is apt to criticise. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Listen to what a sensitive

friend has to suggest today so that you can improve relations with LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Seek an expert this morning who can assit you with some financial difficulty which is bothering

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Change your attitue with an ally and you can make the relationship more meaningful later

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You get fine ideas for handling your tasks more efficiently this morning, but later today

carry through with what's been started. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Have a meeting with an

associate this morning, and come to a fine understanding. Do not disagree with your loved ones.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Agree with some plan a home tie has for improving conditions at your residence today, then be most careful in motion on the highway. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Enjoy some form of entertain-

ment with your partner this morning, but later don't take any risks with your present security.

Birthstone of July: Ruby — Tiger's Eye

#### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JULY 21, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) A family discussion can bring fine ideas for your own advancement later today. Be at your charming

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Know what it is that your partners expect of you today, so listen carefully to their ideas and try to please

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) New financial arrangements with those with whom you associate with can lead to greater production and benefits accruing. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Go after the entertainment which most pleases you and be happy. Remember what it is which

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Have a quiet talk with a family tie about real estate and other holdings and you get the right slant on how best

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Contact that friend for whom you have much affection and you get the favour you need at this time for a important project.

LIBRA: (September 23: to October 22) Show your admiration for a bigwig and you get fine suggestions for your advancement. Be sure of yourself and be happy.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You get new ideas today which can help you to analyse your true position in life and how to better it. Take command of your own life. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You may think

your obligations are too much for you to handle today, but if you consult with an expert, they become easy. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You are more appreciated today by both associates and friends and they give good

ideas how best to advance in life. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Help your loved one to get the house in fine order today and add art pieces to make your home more attractive and charming.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are inspired to gain your aims and can do so with relative ease today, especially if you use

Birthstone of July: Ruby - Tiger's Eye

## Japan tops fortune list of world's biggest firms

bishi Corp topped Fortune magazine's revamped list of the world's 500 biggest companies on Tuesday as Japanese trading firms pushed perennial number-one General Motors into fifth

Fotune's annual list of the world's top companies was revised this yeare to include service as well as industrial enterprises, which left carmaker GM trailing not only Mitsubishi, but also Japan's Mitsui Co. Ltd, ITOCHU,

The rankings were based

on 1994 revenues — expressed in dollars - and the four top Japanese companies all surpassed the \$160 billion mark, with Mitsubishi bringing in \$175.84 billion last

year. The United States with 151 companies and Japan with 149 by far made up the bulk of Fortune's international 500. Of the first 30 companies, Japan had 16 and the United States 11.

Germany was the third biggest contributor with 44 companies, including two in the top 30, Daimler-Benz A.G. (20th) and Siemens A.G.

France was the next with 40 companies, followed by Britain, with 33. The Anglo-Dutch oil company Royal Dutch/Shell group ranked number 10.

Among the very biggest corporations, there were twice ase many Japanese firms as American. Of the top 20 companies, 12 were Japanese and six were Amer-

Ford Motor Co. took seventh place, immediately followed by Exxon Corp. Last year they ranked second and third, respectively, on

None of the Japanese firms in the top 10 would have made the list last year as they were considered service com-

Fortune's list of industrial

panies and were ranked separ-While Japanese companies dominated the top of the list, they also figured prominently

among the money losers as Japan's economy remained deep in the doldrums. Of the 46 firms on the 500 list that lost money last year, half were Japanese. By contrast, only nine U.S. companies lost money.

## Berlusconi says Saudi deal not yet concluded

MILAN (R) — Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has signed an agreement to sell a 20 per cent stake in his TV empire to a consortium led by Saudi billionaire Prince Al Waleed Bin Talal, Saudi financial sources said.

The sources said on Tuesday that a deal had been signed by negotiators led by Saudi lawyer Mustafa Al Heiailan.

But Mr. Berlusconi himself said the deal was not yet formally concluded.

"If we had sold, we would have said so immediately and publicly. When it does happen, we will announce it straightaway," Mr. Berlusco-

Germany's Kirch Group, reported to be part of the Saudi-led consortium, also said it was too early to comment on a possible accord with Mr. Berlusconi.

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20 Impudent

21 Venezuela

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36 Commerce

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49 Once upon —

52 Animal track

60 Israel's Abba

64 Overwhelmed

65 — over (help)

54 Chum

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63 Vendition

48 Flight maneuver

40 Pastures 41 Rabbit

A spokesman for Mr. Berlusconi's holding company, Fininvest, said earlier on Tuesday that negotiations on the sale of a stake of up to 25 per cent in television and advertising arm Mediaset were on the final leg and could be over by Friday.

We don't know when Berlusconi will sign the final agreement," the spokesman said, adding: "It's just the final decision that is needed but nobody knows when it will be taken. It could be a matter of days or of hours. However, it should be settled by Friday.'

If the deal is finalised, it would end weeks of intense speculation over the future of Berlusconi's stations which command almost half the Italian television audi-

Mr. Berlusconi, who served as prime minister at the head of a right-wing

administration for seven months in 1994, has come under constant sniping from opponents over a conflict of interest between his political and media ambitions.

The spokesman said a further 20 to 25 per cent of Mediaset could be floated later on the Milan stock exchange. He said it was not clear

how much each foreign investor was negotiating to buy in Mediaset but some Italian newspapers reported that Prince Al Waleed had agreed to buy 10 per cent. German media magnate

Leo Kirch and South African businessman Johann Rupert had agreed to buy five per said, Mr. Kirch and Mr. Rupert are already in partnership with Mr. Berlusconi in a pay television venture called Telepiu.

Mr. Berlusconi has also

held face-to-face talks with Australian-born media baron Rupert Murdoch, who chairs News Corporation, a combine with worldwide interests in newspapers, films, radio and television. Mr. Murdoch has said he is only interested in Mediaset if he can acquire

outright control. Mr. Berlusconi was anxious to water down his stake in Mediaset in the hope that he could head off his political critics if he chooses to run for office again in the next gener-

But analysts said Mr. Berlusconi was unlikely to settle the controversy over his media interests even if he only retained a minority

"I don't think this is going to solve the problem as far as Berlusconi's opponents are concerned," said a media analyst, who asked not to be

### Kevin Maxwell sought Israeli

white knight from Israel would save his late father's collapsing publishing empire,

pension funds to prop up their father's ailing empire.

at sea in November 1991. A Tel Aviv lawyer told London's Old Bailey that, after the elder Maxwell's death, Kevin Maxwell approached him to broker a rescue deal with an unidentified Israeli white knight who would be able to come up

million) to save the empire.

knight. Mr. Neeman did not know the identity of the rescuer, but was "of the opinion he is very serious and absolutely capable of making this size of investment," he told the

also led to believe by the then-Israeli finance minister. Yitzhak Modai, that Israel's government would help out. Maxwell had invested con-

of faxes, Mr. Neeman failed to organise the rescue before a Dec. 2. 1991 deadline, and the Maxwell empire col-

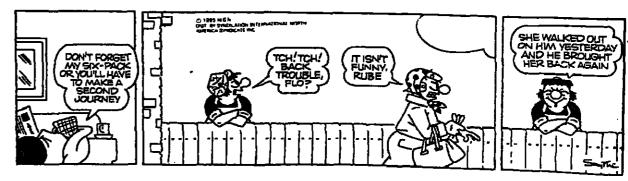
# Peanuts







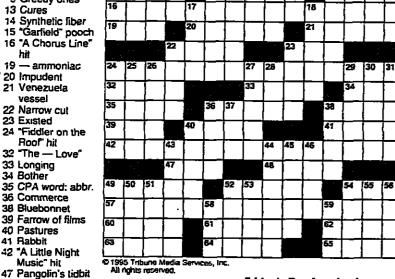
#### **Andy Capp**



#### **Mutt'n'Jeff**



### THE Daily Crossword by Grace C. Pinkston 9 Greedy ones 13 Cures



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Friday's Puzzle solved: SAGEAHAND

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to save empire LONDON (AP) — Kevin Maxwell believed a mystery

a London court has heard. Mr. Maxwell and his brother Ian are on trial for fraudulent use of employee

Mr. Maxwell's holdings were found to be teetering on the verge of bankruptcy fol-lowing his mysterious death

with the £400 million (\$640

Yaacov Neeman said he set about negotiating the deal with David Kimche, a former director of Israel's Foreign Ministry, who was acting on behalf of the mystery white

Mr. Neeman said he was

siderably in Israel, and was regarded as a hero for brokering an arms deal with his native Czechoslovakia during Israel's 1948 independence war. Despite a frantic exchange

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20, 1995

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#### **Ministry** reconsidering hotel classification system

finister of Tourism Abdul Ilah Khatib said his ministry signed a deal with an international company to reconsider standards for classifying hotels. Mr. Khatib said a new classification system is expected to be ready before the end of the year, noting that the ministry was cooperating with the Jordanian Hotels Society and investors in this regard. He said the new system does not aim to reclassify existing hotels, but is intended mainly to make Jordanian hotels competitive in the region (Al

\*\* The Jordan Tourism Investments Company and a local contracting company this week signed an agreement to start implementing the first stage of constructing the Amman Grand Hyatt Hotel in the Jabal Amman area near the Third Circle. The JD 2,165,481 stage, which will be executed within 210 days, entails laying the foundations for the 313-room hotel and constructing two floors. The hotel project will be completed in 1997 (Al Aswaq).

\*\* The Amman Chamber of Commerce is about to finish a guidebook on Jordanian industries to be distributed at the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit which will be held in Amman in October. The guidebook will be in English (Al Aswaq).

\*\* The Ministry of Supply asked the Association of Foodstuff Merchants to reconsider coffee prices in the local market in a manner conforming to the drop in the commodity's prices in international markets. An official source said the ministry was keen to protect the interests of Jordanian consumers and thus was following the issue with the association. The source said the ministry received pledges from merchants to reduce prices within the coming few days. Coffee prices were floated recently after the rise in coffee prices in international markets (Al Dustour).

\*\* Yarmouk University will establish a commercial centre at a cost of JD University Assistant President for Investment Affairs Saeed Al Bashir said. Mr. Bashir said the centre, which will be established in the western side of the university's campus, will contain 500 stores. He said the project is expected to generate annual profits of about JD 133,000 (Al Dustour).

\*\* Royal Jordanian (RJ) will soon decide what type of airliners it will use to transport passengers on short routes operated by it. RI has over the past period experimented and test flied several small aircraft that would suit its needs for flights to Aqaba, Sharm Al Sheikh, Taba, Alexandria, Cairo, Beirut, Damascus and Larnaca. The new turbine-engine, 50-passenger aircraft will be operating from the Marka airport in Amman (Al Ra'i).

# Aid group commits \$200m to help world's poorest

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new international aid group fighting the most extreme poverty in the world said Sunday it will lend \$200 million in small amounts to the poorest inhabitants of de-

veloping countries. "Micro-level credit schemes help people help themselves by starting smallscale income generation pro-jects and businesses," said James Wolfensohn, head of the World Bank, which normaily lends only to govern-

"They are an effective way of reaching women, thereby helping to improve the incomes and well-being of their families," Mr. Wolfensohn

The Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP), whose founding meeting was held in Washington on June 27, aims to provide credit for the one billien poorest people on the globe. Most live in south Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, while others are in pockets of extreme poverty in Latin America and Eastern

U.S. Dollar in *Internatio*nal Market

Cairo Amman Bank

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**Financial** 

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Italian Lira\*

Belgian Franc

Lebenese Lira

Kuwaiti Dinas

Qutari Rival

Omani Riyal

UAE Dirbace

Greek Drachma

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"The demand is enormous --- as many as 500 million micro-entrepreneurs want credit, but only a few of them can get it today," said Ismail Serageldin, World Bank vice president who also heads the

new group.

The lending group intends to distribute the funds through non-governmental organisations and special "banks for the poor" that have sprung up in several countries. The latter offer a combination of loans, advice and group training to the very poor to begin small-scale businesses.

Many of these tiny enter-prises have no collateral to offer and therefore have no access to credit from the formal banking sector. Instead, they rely on the special banks that provide loans ranging from \$30-\$100.

But such banks, the pioneer of which is the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh. are usually under-financed and thus limited in their ability to meet demand.

The Grameen Bank extends loans averaging \$100 to landless and illiterate villagers who otherwise could never get credit to build homes, buy cattle or start small businesses with a pushcart or a hand loom. The overwhelming majority of the

recipients are women, described by Mr. Serageldin as the "poorest of the poor." "Experience shows that the payback rate is 98 per cent - better than any commercial bank," he said. "This proves that the very poor are bankable."

He said the Grameen Bank had succeed in its 20-year history in reaching half of Bangladesh's 75,000 villages. The CGAP wants to help by financing new branch offices in order to achieve nationwide coverage within eight

In other parts of the world, lending institutions for the poor face different problems. In sub-Saharan Africa, the main obstacles are regulatory: Credit unions that are

working successfully and mobilising domestic savings are not allowed by law to do many of the things they should, Mr. Serageldin said.

So far, the CGAP has received funds totalling \$200 million from the United States, France, Canada, the Netherlands, the European Commission, various United Nations agencies and the World Bank. At least \$100 million more, and possibly twice as much, is expected to flow in as other countries and financial institutions join the

. But Mr. Scrageldin cautioned that the microloans can never replace largescale, government-togovernment aid or loans for investment projects given out by the World Bank.
"These two are essential

complementary actions you have a kind of pincer movement on poverty, from the top at the level of national policies and capital investment projects but also from the grassroots," he said.

### Bahrain offered T-bills worth \$520m in 1994

1994 to finance government spending were heavily over-subscribed by banks operating on the island, the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA)

The BMA, Bahrain's Central Bank, said in an annual report that it had issued treasury bills worth 520 million dinars (\$1.38 billion) in 1994 while banks had submitted bids for 1.187 billion dinars (\$3.15 billion).

The BMA offers 10 million

dinars (\$26.5 million) worth of 91-day treasury bills every

It said the average interest rate on the T-bills during 1994 was 4.75 per cent. The highest rate was 6.38 per cent in December and the lowest was 3.26 per cent in January

BMA said it offered treasury bills worth five million dinars (\$13.3 million) once a month with a maturity of 182 days. The amount issued was 60 million dinars (\$159 milAMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET BOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SEMEISANI TELEPHONE: 607171 / 607179 ED MARKET SHARE PAICE LIST FOR WEDENSDAY 19/07/1995

COMPANY'S NAME	no. Of Shares Traded	VALUE TRADED JD:	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	CLOSI: PRICE	NG
ARAB BANK PIC	500				
JORDAN MATIONAL BANK	· 3034	13728	4.530		520
BANK OF JORDAN	1700	5760	3.400	3.4	400
THE HOUSING BANK	1650	13200	8.080	8.6	000
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	3359	9395	2.830	2.1	800
JORDAN GULF BANK	7000	8143	1.190	1.	160
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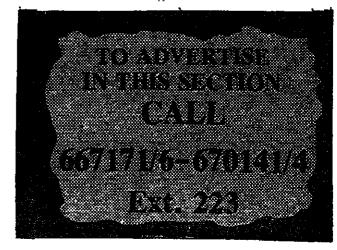
rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday. Canadian dollar U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3612/22

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Japanese yen 87.50/60 7.1575/75 Swedish crowns 6.1540/90 Norwegian crowns Danish crowns 5.3905/55 \$1.5940/50 One ounce of gold \$389.15/389.65









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# Women's national basketball team leaves for Japan today

By Aleen Bannayan

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan's first women's national basketball team since 1983 Thursday leaves for Japan to take part in the Asian Basketball Championship which will be held in Shizuoka from July 23-31.

The delegation is headed by Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) member Muna Janho and includes players Rana Husseini (team captain), Tala Al Mauje, Suhair Makusi, Jehane Abdulnour, Jumana Salti, Hind Al Ghouri, Sirsa Naghaway, Andeira Kasisieh, Hala Huheisen, Rania Dajani, Tetiana Qardan, and Zein Sha'sha'a.

Jordan will be the only Arab team participating in the 14-team competition. Level A includes China, South Korea, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgizstan, and Taiwan.

Jordan will be playing in Level B with Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

The trip to Japan is historic for women players as this is the first national



The Kingdom's women's national basketball team pose for a photo with NBA superstar Hakeem Olajuwon at the Sports Palace during

team to be finally regrouped after a 12-year absence from the basketball scene. It also marks the first time Jordan takes part in the women's cham-

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pionship.

the youth Under-18 team who made history of their The team had a hard own by clinching the Asian time securing funds for bronze medal to become their participation since the the first Jordanian team to JBF's budget was spent on

qualify for the World Bas-ketball Championship currently underway in Greece (see separate story).

A fund-raising effort by the women's team fell short

of its target as they managed to come up with JD 5,600, and the JBF contributed JD 2,300.

Upon learning that the team was finding it difficult to secure funds for the trip, Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath saved the day by donating JD 5,000 to meet the group's travel

Because of limited funds, the team only had four out of 12 requested matches prior to departure. On a week-long visit to the King-dom Syrian champions Al Jala' won two matches 62-59 and 69-51 while Jordan won another two 54-37 and

The Jordanian team was due to have played another four matches against an Ukrainian team but they were cancelled because of limited funds.

The team will be leaving Thursday evening and are scheduled to arrive in Tokyo July 23.

# **National** Rally to be held Friday

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Kingdom's top rally competitors are gearing up for the start of the season's fourth autosport event - the NOKIA National Rally - which will start from the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ) at 10:30 a.m. Fri-

day.

The rally will cover a total distance of 240 kilometres of new terrain with six special stages located around the four famous Umayyad desert castles of Al Harrana, Mushatta, Rujm Al Shami and Amra.

RACJ have announced that the format of the rally is a trial to see if the stages are suitable for the first leg of the 1996 Jordan Interna-

tionall Rally.

The rally will start from RACJ heading towards Mushatta and Rujm Al Shami on the way to Azraq 60 kilometres east of Amman. After these two stages the cars will regroup and restart at 1 pm. to-wards Harrana and Amra.

to score an overtrick. After the trump lead it might appear that the fate of the contract hinged on the

leas. The first trick was won on the

table, the ace and king of diamonds were cashed and a diamond was ruffed. Declarer returned to hand

with a spade ruff and drew trumps.
With the groundwork completed declarer led the remaining diamond

In with the queen of diamonds,
East was snared in a major-suit endplay. Both a spade or a heart return
would be into one of dummy's major
tenaces, giving South 12 tricks via
three tricks in the majors, two diamonds, a diamond ruff and six
terms tricks.



Doctor Gerard Porte gives first aid to Italian cyclist Fabio Casartelli who lies unconscious on the ground after crashing in the downhill part of the 15th stage of the Tour de France Wor

Pue

By Aleen lordan Times S

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### Helmet safety renewed after Casartelli's death

Brussels.

tain climbs.

Paris-Nice.

PARIS (AP) — Shocked by the death of a colleague on the Tour de France, riders and officials Wednesday were again debating whether to require helmets that have been shunned as too hot and

From countries that require wearing the belmets in races — Belgium and the Netherlands — to Italy. home country of the dead rider, debate raged over whether to wear protective headgear.

Like most of his colleagues, 24-year-old Fabio Casartelli was unprotected when he crashed during a downhill run on Tuesday's 15th stage of the summertime race and died after suffering severe head injuries. "He could have saved his

life, using a helmet," said Francesco Moser, retired Italian cycling great. He ack-nowledged helmets can be troublesome because of heat. "But I think cyclists should use helmets at least down

dangerous descents," he said. Cycling authorities backed off when riders threatened to strike over a 1991 International Cycling Union ruling that they must wear helmets. "Riders and team leaders

said in 1990 that making hel-

tain climbs,"said cyclist Chris Boardman, who was injured in a fall at the beginning of this. year's Tour de France. "Very few riders consider the plunge down the other side, which is ironic consider-

ing that, as we descen at 60mph (100 kph), it's pobmets most." Heinie Kuiper, the assis-

tant manager of the Casartelli's Motorola team argued that because of the heat Tuesday, "almost none of the met mandatory could not be riders were wearing heldone, 'too hot,' the criticism\_.

UCI chairman told the Het

"In the end we scrapped the measure. But I told the

team leaders they were tak-

ing a heavy responsibility;" the Dutch official said.

hard helmets are heavy and

make them sweat, and are

uncomfortable on hot moun-

They protested fines im-

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mets in a number of major

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obligatory, they (the riders) came back with the dangers

of heat stroke on hot moun-

"When helmets were made

Riders complained that

Laatste Nieuwe newspaper of

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hand. North did not jump on the first round, but waited until the next. North-South reached an ex-cellent slam that would have been laydown had West not found an ex-

Topic of the Mile card a heart on the ace of spades and take the heart finesse in an attempt

What if West won the fourth dia-mond? That player would have to retide a major suit and declarer would be back to a finesse for the contract. And is diamonds had not split 4-3, declarer would have had to rely on the heart finesse to get home.

International Community School P.O.Box 2002, Khilda, Amman

The International Community School, in Khilda, is seeking to appoint a Nursery Class Teacher (for 3-4 year olds) for September 1995. Interested applicants should be native speakers with the NNEB, Montessori or other equivalent Nursery diploma.

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## World Basketball Championship

# Puerto Rico defeat Jordan

By Aleen Bannayan Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Kingdom's Under-18 basketball team suffered their fifth consecutive defeat at the Junior World Basketball Championship late Tuesday evening when they lost 87-68 to Puerto Rico in the 16-team competition currently underway in Athens.

Jordan committed a high number of 25 fouls and were held to low scoring as the Puerto Ricans won the first half with a wide margin 43-25.

The Kingdom's team played a better second half as Zeid Alkhas scored 22, Ma'an Odeh 18, and Ihab

Again Jordan's team had a low free throw percentage with only 9 out of 16 at 56 per cent and only one out of six three-point tries

The Kingdom's team is now playing for 9-16th places with South Korea, China, Puerto Rico in one group and Venezuela, Nigeria, Italy and Angola in another.

The Kingdom's team was due to have faced China late Wednesday evening. In earlier matches they lost to Asian champions South Korea 68-60 and in the preliminary round they finished last in Group C after losing to titleholders the U.S. 61-51, Australia 78-35 and Italy 87-64.

The top eight teams in the competition moved into the semifinals and will play for 1-8th places. They are: Lithuania, Argentina, Au-stralia, Spain, Croatia, France, the U.S. and **Greece.** 

Jordan, the third placed finisher in the Asian Championship in March, is representing the continent along

with China and S. Korea. The U-18 team is the first to represent Jordan in a world championship, and only the third Arab country to qualify for the World

Basketball Championship. Egypt finished last in Sao Paulo in 1979 while Syria came in 12th among 16 in the 1992 championship in Canada, Jordan's team inludes

Zeid Alkhas, Ma'an Odeh, Ashraf Samarah, Mahmoud Sha'ban, Samer Nino, Ihab Msih, Ramzi Ghneim, Fadi Al Saqaa, Zeid Zu'mot, Ra'ed Ghoseh, Ziyad Naghoj, and Seif Lada'.

The team will return to Amman Sunday after playing another match Saturday to determine their final standing in the cham-

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# Tarango loses another stormy match

2-point shots

Turnovers

**Possessions** 

Free throws

Steaks

Blocks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Jeff Tarango, clashing with the umpire and staging a sitdown protest, returned to singles play Tuesday in a match almost as stormy as his

default at Wimbledon. In a 6-3, 5-7, 6-3 loss to Byron Black in the opening round of the \$675,000 Legg Mason Tennis Classic, Tarango argued with chair umpire Norm Chryst several times and at one point sat down for several seconds to protest his refusal to overrule.

Tarango bantered with spectators during play and once even asked Black whether a line call was correct. After the match he was

more subdued than angry.
Tarango was fined \$15,500
at Wimbledon and could face further sanctions following an investigation. Tarango branded chair umpire Bruno Rebeuh "corrupt," claiming certain players received preferential treatment from him. Tarango's wife slapped Rebeuh after the match.

His protest Tuesday came when a serve in the 10th game of the second set was ruled long.

"I was disappointed because if it's called in, we're at 5-5 and I'm back in it," said Tarango, who wound up winning the set. "But I respect Norm (Chryst) and I know he doesn't have it in for me." Tarango also showed his displeasure at a time viola-

9/16 (56%) 18/27 (66%)

28/58(48%) 30/57 (52%) (am 5 1/6 (16%) 3/8 (37%)

tion called by Chryst. "I think the people who came out here today saw that these sort of close, only one or two points are the difference in most matches these

# IOC sends out 197 invitations for '96 Games

year."

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LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AP) — Exactly one year before the opening of the centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, the International Olympic Committee sent out 197 letters Wednesday inviting the world to attend.

In a ceremony at the Olympic museum in Lausanne, IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch said, "it has now become a tradition for the IOC to reconfirm the invitation launched at every closing ceremony calling on the youth of the world to assemble in Atlanta.

"We are sure they will present the world with the best ·Games ever."

197 national Olympic com-

The letters of invitations to

black, red, yellow and white. Among the new invitees were the former Soviet republics. Palestine and Cam-

the Olympic rings - blue,

The Atlanta Games will take place from July 19 to Aug. 4, marking the 100th anniversary of the first modern Olympics in Athens,

Attending the ceremony were Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell and Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic

Payne assured that athletes and visitors from around the world would receive a warm

"We in Atlanta have been

large bags in the colours of working tirelessly and we will present to the world the finest sport facilities that exist anywhere," he said. "We are also preparing our community to present a warm south-ern welcome. We are looking forward more than I could possibly express to share with the world the Olympic

Games in just one short

Campbell called Wednesday's ceremony an "extraor-dinary moment" and "yet another milestone" in the city's preparations. "When Billy Payne

dreamed his magnificent dream, no one could have imagine the greatness of the task," Campbell said. "He presented Atlanta with an extraordianry challenge but

also a wonderful opportunity. "In half a dozen years the city of Atlanta has changed tremendously. We have a new stadium and a magnificent Olympic park, but we have also changed ourselves because in the future we will never more be the same as we have in the past."

Samaranch symbolically signed seven invitations: Greece as the source of the modern Games, the United States as the 1996 host, Spain as host of the 1992 Barcelona Games, Japan as host of the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Australia as host of the 2000 Summer Games in Sydney, Guinea-Bissau as the most recently recognised national Olympic committee, and Switzerland as host coun-

try of the IOC. The invitation to the United States was accepted by Anita Defrantz, the U.S. member on the IOC executive board.

The United Parcel Service, an Olympic sponsor, will de-liver the invitations. UPS vice president Ed Schroeder said the invitations, for the first time, will be tracked electronically to ensure prompt delivery around the world.

Wednesday's ceremony also included film of the 1990 IOC session in Tokyo when Atlanta was awarded the Games and of the 1992 closing ceremony when the Olympic flag was turned over to then Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson .

## Magic Johnson passes on chance to return to NBA

LOS ANGELES (AP) Magic Johnson has decided to pass on the chance to return to the NBA and the Los Angeles Lakes to concentrate on his business ven-

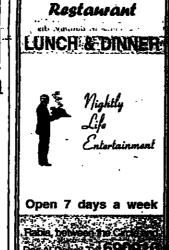
The playmaking wizard of pro-basketball's Lakers said Tuesday he can't give the necessary 100 per cent of his energy to returning to the NBA, and he will focus on his expanding movie-theatre and shopping-mall interests.

In a way, it was the third retirement announcement by the three-time MVP, who first retired Nov. 7, 1991 when he said he had become infected with the AIDS virus. After winning a 1992 Olym-pic gold medal, he rejoined the Lakers before the 1992-93 season, but retired again before it started.

Johnson again before it started.

Johnson said two months ago there was a good chance he would make another come back as a player with the team he led to five NBA championships in the 1980s. He made four other NBA finals appearances in his 12 years with the Lakers.

Chez Simon



"I was really leaning to-ward coming back and playing," Johnson said in a statement. "As my business interests continue to increase, I've found that I cannot give questions involved in his de-

100 per cent to basketball, and if I can't give it my all, it's best I don't return.' Johnson's health is good,

cision, said his agent, Lon and there were no medical

"He'll continue his basketball career, just not in the

NBA," Rosen said. Johnson's All-Star Team will tour Europe and Asia later this

Johnson played in five preeason games before the 1992-93 season. But on Nov. 2, 1992, before the season opener, he retired after suffering a cut during an exhibition game. The cut sparked concern he might spread the AIDS virus to other players.

He also coached the Lakers briefly near the end of a dismal 1993-94 seson and found the experience unful-

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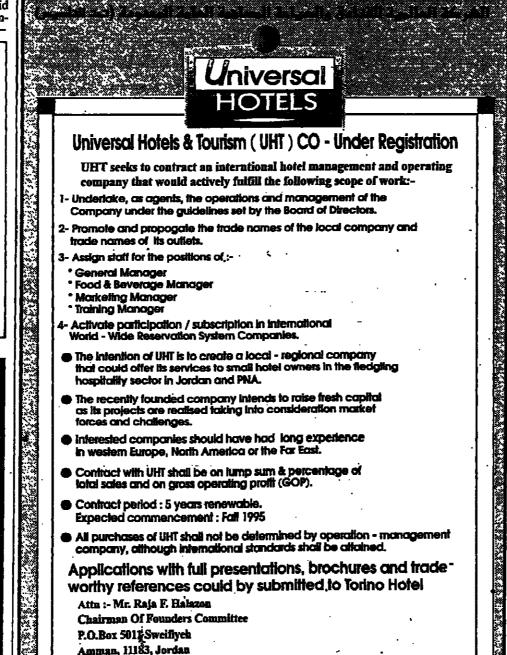
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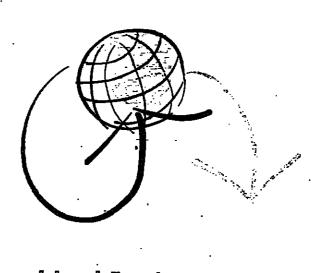
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# Al Sahaf in 'rare' meeting with Musa

## Iraq gives U.N. August ultimatum -

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq on Wednesday gave an August ultimatum to the U.N. disarmament commission to complete its work and recommend a lifting of sanc-

We can no longer continue working with UN-SCOM (U.N. Special Commission) without there being something clear," Foreign Minister Mohammad Said Al Sahaf said on state radio.

The U.N. commission on

disarming Iraq "must finish its mission quickly, at the end of August at the latest, in order to submit its report to the U.N. Security Council so that it lifts the embargo," he

President Hussein warned Monday he would stop cooperating with the United Nations unless it lifted the sanctions imposed after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

In Cairo, Egypt's foreign minister held a rare meeting with his Iraqi counterpart that may signal greater Egyptian efforts to welcome Iraq back into the Arab fold.

The state-run media did not report Foreign Minister Ann Musa's talks late Tues-day night with Mr. Al Sahaf, and an Egyptian foreign not confirm the meeting.

But Arab diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two ministers had "very cordial discussions" that focused on Egyptian-Iraqi ties and Arab relations. Mr. Al Sahaf confirmed the encounter Wednesday, calling it "a meeting between two

The meeting is sensitive because Egypt is reluctant to anger its Gulf allies, namely Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, which have vowed not to reconcile with Iraq as long as Saddam Hussein is in power.

Egypt's animosity, however, runs less deep. It partici-pated in the U.S.-led coalition that drove Iraq out of Kuwait in 1991, but has in recent months spoken of the need to lift U.N. sanctions,

states gathered Wednesday in

the capital Abuja for talks

with the military ruler, General Sani Abacha, pre-

sumably on the fate of 25

alleged coup plotters be-

lieved to have been sent-

enced to death or life in

Officials in Abuja con-

firmed the meeting was tak-

ing place but said nothing of

The meeting was separate from another, of the Pro-

visional Ruling Council

(PRC), the ruling military

junta, which is expected to

convene this week in order to

review the sentences imposed

on 43 alleged coup plotters.
Press reports said retired

general Olusegun Obasanjo

was sentenced to life in pris-

on, along with 10 others.

Gen. Pbasanjo is the only

military ruler in Nigeria's 35

years of independence to

have organised elections and

turned over power, in 1979,

retired general who had been

Gen. Obasanjo's vice presi-

dent, was reported to have

been sentenced to die, along

been handed lesser sent-

ences, and three were judged

in absentia, according to the

wife, Binta Shehu Yar'Adua,

broke her previous silence

and proclaimed her hus-

band's innocence Wednesday

PARIS (AFP) - Users of

the worldwide electronic

highway known as the Inter-

net can now vote in an

In Lagos, Gen. Yar'Adua's

press reports.

Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, a

to a civilian government.

the topic of the meeting.

prison.

Before Iraq's 1990 invasion

of Kuwait, Iraq and Egypt were allies and trading partners. Tens of thousands of Egyptians still work in Iraq, despite the absence of diplomatic relations.

The meeting comes just two weeks after Gulf states again turned down an Egyptian plan for more financial assistance for Arab countries that took part in the Gulf war

According to the diplomats, Mr. Musa urged Iraq to try to resolve remaining disagreements with the U.N. Security Council, including the destruction of weapons of mass destruction and claims that hundreds of Kuwaiti prisoners are still held by

The diplomats said Mr. Al Sahaf also told Mr. Musa that President Hussein had de-cided to release 10,000 Egyptians jailed in Iraq on criminal charges as a humanitarian gesture. He asked the Egyptian government to arrange

for their return to Egypt.
On Wednesday, Mr. Al Sahaf met Esmat Abdul Meguid, the Arab League secretary-general, for talks on efforts to lift the oil

The meeting with Mr. Musa is not the first time Egypt has sought to mend relations. Last year, President Hosni Mubarak and Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan, president of the United Arab Emirates, tried to develop an initiative for a reconciliation

But the attempt was block-ed by Saudi Arabia and

Since Egypt and Iraq severed relations after the 1990 invasion, officials of the two countries have not met except on the sidelines of international or Arab gatherings.

Mr. Al Sahaf planned to travel Thursday to Qatar, another Arab country that has suggested a reconciliation

with Iraq.
Mr. Al Sahaf gave Mr.
Abdul Meguid details of Baghdad's cooperation with the United Nations and its special commission on Iraqi

Nigerian rulers discuss

fate of alleged plotters

She said she had not

spoken previously because: "I have always believed that

the creator in his own way

will always defend the de-

fenceless, but one task which

history and my conscience

have placed on my shoulders

is the burden of speaking out

before an innocent man, my

husband, is wrongly conde-

mned and an unjust sentence

General Shehu Musa Yar'A-

dua is a quiet, taciturn man

who is passionate about

democratic conduct and prac-

tice," she said. "In and out of

office he has always played

Provisional Ruling Council

sit to take a look at the

report" of the military court,

"I appeal to their honour and

sense of justice to do that

Also in Lagos, the Sup-reme Council for Islamic

Affairs (SCIA), Nigeria's

highest Islamic authority,

joined other local and inter-

national groups pleading for

the junta to "show mercy and

clemency to the military

officers and civilians" con-

victed of the failed coup.
The SCIA appeal joined

others already made by other

local and international

Internet users vote 'no' to nuclear testing

of testing, scheduled for

The poll, launched July 3

by a company called Cyber-

pages International, and due

to run to the end of the year,

is being actively promoted by

the Australian newspaper

The Age, among other pub-

Readers of The Age's In-

September, with only five per

cent in favour.

'As the members of the

"Nigerians can testify that

executed on him."

by the rules.'

which is right."

LAGOS (AFP) — Military in a statement splashed governors of Nigeria's 30 across the front pages of four

disarmament (UNSCOM). "UNSCOM is in a position

that allows it to submit its final report to the Security Council which in turn should follow its commitments to Iraq to lift the embargo" imposed after the 1991 Gulf war to liberate Kuwait, Mr.

"We asked for the general secretary's support for Iraq in this regard," Mr. Sahaf told

Meanwhile, the son of President Hussein on Wednesday launched a drive to repair tanks, artillery and other military equipment damaged during the 1991 Gulf war and the eight-year war with Iran.

"We don't have to spend one single dollar," Uday Hussein said, adding the campaign would not use up. valuable hard currency in a country hit by U.N. economic sanctions since Iraq invaded Kunyair in 1900 vaded Kuwait in 1990.

Damaged parts can be re-placed with "what we have in the warehouses," Mr. Hussein Jr. told army technicians during a meeting filmed by state television.

fraq announced Saturday that it had begun a drive to repair its damaged helicopters. Armoured troop transports and machine guns were also slated for repair in the campaign announced

The London-based Inter-national Institute for Strategic Studies said Iraq has an army of 382,000 men, 650,000 reservists, along with 20,000 border guards and

The army has around 2,200 tanks and armoured vehicles, 2,000 troop carriers, 1,500 heavy, long-range artillery pieces, 250 multiple-rocket launchers, and 500 helicop-ters, including 120 equipped with arms and missiles.

The air force has six bombers, 130 ground-attack planes, 180 fighter jets, as well as air-to-ground and airto-air missiles.

Most equipment is from Russia, but the Mirage warplanes and Exocets are from

Commonwealth and the governments of Britain, Canada,

France, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Switzerland

The president of the SCIA

is Alhaii Ibrahim Dasuki, the

powerful Sultan of Sokoto

who is the senior northern

Nigeria traditional chieftain

and whose son, Sambo, was

one of three persons sent-

enced in absentia over the

alleged coup plot.

Meanwhile, eight Supreme

Court judges in Abuja have

decided to withdraw from

participating in the treason trial of Chief Moshood

Abiola to remove any risk of

bias on their part, press re-ports said here Wednesday.

earlier challenged the compe-

tence of the judges to hear his case since all jurists are in-

volved in another suit with

National Concord newspap-

er, owned by the detained

At a sitting Tuesday convened to fulfil a promise

made by the court may 16 to

explain why they decided to stay out of Mr. Abiola's

treason trial, the judges

announced that a new panel

ence on her husband.

the user-friendly network

known as the World Wide

Web, are directed to the elec-

tronic equivalent of a

multiple-choice form, where

they are asked "do you sup-

port the resumption of nuc-lear testing by France in the

They then click on either

'yes" or "no" — there is no

provision for waverers - and

can also indicate their coun-

try or region of origin.

South Seas?

politician.

Mr. Abiola's lawyers had

and the Vatican.



GRADUATION: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday attended the graduation of Their Royal High-nesses Princes Hamzah Ibn Al Hussein and Rashed Ibn Al Hassan, who graduated from a parachuting training course, organised by the Special Royal Forces. King Hussein, accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan, watched a parachuting exercise

performed by Princes Hamzah and Rashed, in addition to performed by Princes Hamzah and Rashed, in addition to Prince Talal Ibn Mohammad, the King's military secretary. The King also watched free jumping exercises carried out by Their Royal Highnesses Princes Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein and Ali Ibn Al Hussein. Also Wednesday the King attends the graduation of a new group of participants in the three week Hussein camps for youth, organised by the Ministry of Youth.

## Israeli reserve officers join mutiny call

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Five senior military reserve officers announced Wednesday they would refuse to serve over the army's planned redeployment on the West Bank and urged other soldiers to join them.

The five - one an air force pilot and another an army major — said they would rather go to jail than serve in an army which was preparing "abandon Judaea and Samaria," the Israeli name for the West Bank.

The "Chai ve Kaim"

the press conference, issued a statement saying, "the army has become an instrument of the government which is car-rying out a disastrous policy which encourages Palestinian

The mutiny call came after 15 far-right rabbis issued a decree last week banned soldiers from taking part in the evacuation of army bases fro mthe West Bank, which they see as part of the so-called

They argued such evacua-

tion was against Jewish religious law and raised a storm

An extreme right-wing soldier was jailed for two weeks earlier this month for refusing to do a period of reserve duty on the West Bank because he feared having to take part in the redeploy-

A military court ruled that he must still do his duty after the spell in prison.

Israeli men spend three years in the military and then

face up to a month a year on reserve duty until they are 50. About 100 leftists were jailed for refusing to fight in Lebanon between 1982-1985 or in the occupied territories during the uprising which began in 1987.

Israel and the PLO began marathon talks on Sunday to ry to reach an agreement by July 25 to extend autonomy across the West Bank, which would involve army redeployment outside areas of

# 13 killed, 7 beheaded, in Algeria violence

Algerians were beheaded in an attack blamed by officials on Muslim militants and six people were killed in other incidents, newspapers said on Wednesday...

The seven, ranging in age from 15 to 52, were beheaded and their bodies were found last Monday near a road in Chattia town in western Chief province, El Watan said, quoting residents and local officials.

ended his military service and the man's brother were killed on Monday in the same town, the newspaper said.

It also said a boobytrapped van exploded on Monday, killing two people in Bouinan outside Algiers and injuring 18 others.

A closed school nearby was seriously damaged by the bomb hidden inside the van, which was carrying hay, it

It was the second car blast in Bouinan where a car bombing killed about 10 peo-ple earlier this month, the

Also, two armed militants were killed on Tuesday in the eucalyptus south sector of stormed their hideout, the Liberte newspaper said.

Three other militants were wounded and arrested in the

El Watan noted there had been an upsurge of violence involving Islamic militants since the collapse of efforts by the government to reach an agreement to bring the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) back into the political mainstream.

More than 40,000 people have been killed in the past three years in a bloody conflict pitting Muslim guerrillas

# Regional tourism experts propose association

Negev bedouins accuse Israel of 'ethnic cleansing'

floods.

up a regional tourism associa-tion expected to be announced in October.

David Abramowitz, an adviser to the U.S. State Department, said participants from Asia, the United States. the European Union as well as Arabs and Israelis agreed that the association will enhance tourism cooperation

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Three

thousand bedouins facing

eviction from the Negev desert,

officially declared uninhabit-

able, have accused the Israeli

government of "ethnic

cleansing."
The Association for Sup-

port and Defence of bedouin

Rights issued a statement

Wednesday warning that the 200 families from Hawashleh

village would fight to stay

where they have lived for

Israeli army," said associa-

Their youth serve in the

Mr. Abramowitz of Washington, D.C., said: "A consensus was reached today on how the association should work. I believe that it will be a landmark in regional cooperation.'

He declined to give details on the planned association, but said: "All parties are

tion chairman Nuti Al Okbi.

rights to a government-

supported settlement as do

the Jewish new immig-

The group demands state recognition of Hawashleh

and 14 other bedouin settle-

ments in addition to seven

government-sponsored

townships built to re-house

Hawashleh covers 100 hec-

tares near Dimona, but the

land has been classified offi-

the Negev bedouins.

'They have at least as much

ensure the sought-for tourist

The Middle East, where the Arab-Israeli conflict has scared off tourists to archaeological and biblical attractions, is expecting a tourism boom once a comprehensive peace settlement

uninhabited and unculti-

The bedouins point to the

village mosque, grocery shop and charity health clinic,

thousands of head of cattle

and sheep and fruit and

vegetables irrigated by Dams

which capture winter flash

In a neighbouring settle-ment of Abu Ashiba demoli-

tion notices have been posted

on several buildings, the

association said because it

joint resorts and providing tourism packages.

Mr. Abramowitz' committee is part of a working group discussing regional development and cooperation within the framework of the multilateral phase of U.S.-backed peace negotiations launched

too falls in the areas desig-

nated unfit for human habita-

basic services such as water

and electricity for the tradi-

tional villages and equal

rights for bedouins with Jew-

A bedouin tribe, the Jaha-

lin, living on the edge of.

Jerusalem are also fighting

eviction from land they

moved to in the 1950s but

which has now been allotted

to an adjacent Jewish settle-

ment on the West Bank.

ish citizens of Israel.

The association demanded

#### Cancerous lesion removed from Reagan's neck

LOS ANGELES (R) — A cancerous skin lesion resulting from excessive sun exposure was removed from for-mer U.S. President Ronald Reagan's neck during a routine physical examination this week, a Reagan spokes-woman said Tuesday. Spokeswoman Joanne Drake described the lesion as "a small localised basal cell carcinoma" similar to one he had removed from his nose several years ago. "It was totally excised and doctors tell me the chance of recurrence is very small," Ms. Drake said. Mr. Reagan, 84, who last November was diagnosed with the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, was otherwise found to be in good health, according to a statement issued by his office. Mr. Reagan's wife, Nancy, was found to be in excellent health when they underwent their annual physical examinations on Monday and Tuesday. Mr. Reagan has made few public appearances

#### U.S. House votes to close arts agency

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. House of Representa-tives voted to end federal funding for the arts in 1998 as part of the bill cutting next year's government spending on National Parks and Natural Resources. The National Endowment for the Arts Funding is part of a \$12 bil-lion bill for the Interior Department and other agencies. The total is \$1.5 billion less than last year's budget and \$1.8 billion less than President Bill Clinton requested.
The house approved the appropriations on a vote of 244 to 181, but Mr. Chinton's top aides have said it could be vetoed if not changed by the senate. The administration supports arts funding and would like to see more funds for national parks and resources. The arts endow-ment, under attack by conservatives for grants made to artists and performers who present sexually explicit subect matter, would see its budget cut by 40 per cent to \$99.4 million in 1996 and

#### Pilot blamed for **Prince Charles** plane crash

LONDON (R) — The pilot of a royal aircraft should have taken the controls from Prince Charles before it landed on a Scottish island and slewed across a runway crashing to a halt, the Daily Mail said Wednesday. An official report exonerates the heir to the throne but says Squadron Leader Graham Laurie should have taken the controls from Prince Charles, an experienced pilot, when the aircraft landed in high winds on the Isle of Islay in June last year. There were 11 people aboard. No-one was injured. The report, which the Mail said is to be released in parliament Wednesday, said the pilot should not have let the prince land the BAE 146 in such weather and the plane's safety is the pilot's responsibility even if he is not flying it. Three tyres burst when Prince Charles sent the AMMAN (AP) — Tourism experts from 10 countries, including Israel, ended two days of talks here on setting

between regional countries and provide a framework for joint marketing and planning.

convinced that there will be rapid increase in tourism in the region. Regional coopdays of talks here on setting on the region. Regional coopdays of talks here on setting on the region. Regional coopdays of talks here on setting on the region. Regional coopdays of talks here on setting on the region of talks here on setting on the runway causing about £1 million (\$1.60 million) worth of damage, said the Mail in its front page and provide a framework for joint marketing and planning. aircraft off the runway causstory which added Prince

#### Aristide unveils plans for new voodoo temple

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP) - President Jean-Bertrand Aristide unveiled plans for a new voodoo temple in Haiti, answering calls for justice by the ancient religion's followers who claim their beliefs have been shunned. Hundreds of voodoo houngans (priests) and mambos (priestesses) along with believers applauded after Mr. Aristide, a former Roman Catholic priest, announced at the national palace that the new temple would be built. Plans for the religious centre followed complaints by voodoo believers that they had been humiliated at Roman Catholic and Protestant ceremonies such as baptisms and funer-

since being diagnosed with Alzheimer's, a degenerative disease affecting the mind.

#### would be set up to hear the Sudanese rebels release In a statement, also pubwith 13 other military officcase, the reports said. His wife Kudiratu Abiola, who attended the Supreme lished in the local press Wednesday, the SCIA urged Gen. Abacha, a Muslim, to be "kind, just as Allah has ers. Gen. Yar'Adua is from the north, Gen. Obasanjo two U.N. relief workers from the south, and both are Court sitting, was quoted as saying by the independent highly respected figures in Nigeria. The remaining 18 have been kind to you." It urged Gen. Abacha and A.M. newspaper that the federal government has plan-

ned to impose a death sent-(SPLM/A) has released three "They planned to sentence U.N. relief workers it had him to death so that the held hostage in southern whole world would begin to Sudan since June 7, a rebel appeal to them for clemenspokesman said here on groups and countries such as cy, she was quoted as saying the United Nations, the at the end of the court sitting. Wednesday. cy," she was quoted as saying

SPLM/A spokesman Stephen Wondu told journalists here that the three — two Sudanese nationals and a South African of Indian origin - were released in the southern Sudanese town of Chukdum at 8:00 a.m. (0500 GMT) on Wednesday and were on their way to the Sudan-Kenya border where they would be received by

U.N. representation.

Mr. Wondu said the release came immediately after the SPLM/A had ascertained the release by the Sudanese government on Tuesday of

NAIROBI (AFP) — The re-bel Sudan People's Libera-tion Movement Army

SPIN(A) has released the spinor of the release of

cided to delay the release of two Sudanese government security officers captured with the three U.N. workers until after it had established contact with Mr. Ziada and confirmed that he was truly free, Mr. Wondu said.

Mr. Meo and Mr. Ziada, who worked for an Italian non-governmental aid group called COM, were arrested and detained after a raid by. government forces on Pariang in southern Sudan on May 29 and were accused of entering Sudan illegally and helping rebels.

The U.N. workers and security officers had been aboard a plane sent by the Sudanese government from Juba to evacuate Mr. Meo and Mr. Ziada from Pariang on June 7.

## Kuwait, Saudi Arabia make progress on territorial waters

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have made progress in their effort to demarcate territorial waters, the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported Wednes-

KUNA quoted Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah as saying there has been agreement on "specific points" related to the dispute and that "specialists from the two countries will follow up on these points in forthcoming meetings." He spoke after his return

from a brief visit to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Tuesday.

Sheikh Sabah did not elaborate of the points of agreement, but said he and Saudi officials had "a common vision" and a sincere interest in finalising a border demarcation accord. Kuwait and Saudi Arabia had demarcated their land

boundaries in the so-called netural zone in 1968. They agreed to share oil production in the region.

Kuwaiti parliamentarian Abdul Aziz Al Adasanai, head of the foreign relations committee, told Saudi newspapers in interviews this week that completing the task with Saudi Arabia would enable Kuwait to delineate its territorial waters with Iran in the northern Gulf,

Poorly defined territorial boundaries are a legacy of colonial days and these have caused several disputes, including Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

King West th respon Bosnia C

decision LONDON (Agenc Western allies warne Jum Serbs Friday to Jum Serbs Friday to mack on the safe Gorazde will be met substantial and deci ponse which may m power. British Malcolm But U.S. Secreta 7 Warren Christopher s

my Serb attack on C would be met with air "Any air campa Gorarde will include ant antacks on sig mes. There will nore pin-prick strikes Oristopher said. Mr. Christopher sa une commitment in applied to protect oth res including Sara Mr. Christopher's pent was at odds wi Effind's more cautrou our of the allied agre duch returned tim want to the formu ubstantial and decis

"There was strong s for this to include the air power, but there w gest concern expre Mr. Riikind told rep Countries are comso the senous risks in this

The agreement fell s the U.S. proposal for melming air strikes

Chirac arrives Nory Coast YAMOUSSOUKRO. Coast (AFF) — French 14 Jacques Chirac a Fnday in Yamousso

political capital of the Coast, on the second le ive-day trip to Aimo irst as president. The i kader, who arrived at day, was greeted by Pre Henn Konan Bedie ar cened a traditional weigh Mr Chirac briefly me leads of state of Benin ina Faso. Niger and with whom he was to blateral meetings in memoon. Mr. Chirac's can inp is aimed at und ing France's solidarity w lormer colonies on the can continent, despite come fear is a growing tational disengagemen

<sup>12</sup> police Wounded in istanbu)

ISTANBLIL (R) — The problem of the p about the identity of stackers but in recent with the identity of situatis from a leftist of situatis from a leftist of situatis from a separate at the city. The mill fazosmanpasa, where stope were killed disas against police.

SPLA releases <sup>40Stages</sup>'

Man People's Liber, Lib

adnese government so officers were headed with the relevant to the relevant to the pariang are itself it that had earlier itself itself

#### ongoing straw poll on France's nuclear testing policy. The answer to date is a responding "no" to new The results as of Wednesday showed approximately 95 per cent of respondents against France's resumption